

DENE HOUSE PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Aspire Achieve Smile

Early Years

Child Protection within Safeguarding Policy and Guidance

Date of last review: Sept 2023

Date of next review: Sept 2024

Lead member of staff: Mr L Blake (Head Teacher)

Nominated Governor: Mrs J Craggs

This policy should be read in conjunction with the following documents:

- Whole School Keeping Children Safe in School: Safeguarding our children: Early Help through to Child Protection Policy updated September 2022
- DFE Keeping Children Safe in Education Statutory Guidance September 2022;
- HM Government What to do if you're worried a child is being abused March 2015;
- HM Government Working together to safeguard children July 2018;

Educate and Celebrate

Dene House Primary School are proud to be a part of 'Educate and Celebrate'. Our school does not tolerate any types of discrimination, which include acts against anyone due to their:

- Age
- Disability
- Gender
- Gender identity
- Race
- Religion or belief
- Sexual orientation
- Pregnancy and Maternity
- Marriage.

As part of the programme, we educate children about our diverse society and children learn to celebrate differences.

EYFS Procedures

- Our procedures are regularly reviewed and up-dated
- All new members of staff are given a copy of 'Unknown children – destined for disadvantage?' and EYFS Statutory framework.

Concerns

All staff understand what to do if they have any concerns regarding:

- significant changes in children's behaviour;
- deterioration in children's general well-being;
- unexplained bruising, marks or signs of possible abuse or neglect;
- children's comments which give cause for concern;
- any reasons to suspect neglect or abuse outside the setting, for example in the child's home; and/or inappropriate behaviour displayed by other members of staff, or any other person working with the children. For example: inappropriate sexual comments; excessive one-to-one attention beyond the requirements of their usual role and responsibilities; or inappropriate sharing of images.

If any member of staff has a concern over a child, this should be recorded on CPOMS. The concern must also be shared with EYFS Leader. When completing the record, it is essential that any quotes from the child are recorded exactly and not paraphrased.

Any child protection and/or safeguarding concerns will be shared immediately with the relevant local authority. Members of staff are informed on a need to know basis of a pupil's child protection status and areas of concern to enable effective monitoring.

All staff are made aware of the children across EYFS who are believed to be at a disadvantage. These children will be discussed regularly in EYFS staff meetings to monitor their progress. These children are not just those who qualify for Pupil Premium funding (See criteria listed in 'Destined for Disadvantaged').

Suitable people

Dene House Primary School maintains a single central record of recruitment and vetting checks undertaken on appointment of all staff and volunteers employed.

All students and volunteers who work in our EYFS setting will not be left to work with children unsupervised. Students and volunteers cannot support children with intimate care/toileting supervision. They are prohibited to take images of children on any personal device (IPADS/Cameras/Mobile Phones).

Practitioners must not be under the influence of alcohol or any other substance which may affect their ability to care for children. If practitioners are taking medication which may affect their ability to care for children, those practitioners should seek medical advice. We will ensure that those practitioners only work directly with children if medical advice confirms that the medication is unlikely to impair that staff member's ability to look after children properly. Staff medication on the premises must be securely stored, and out of reach of children, at all times.

At least one person who has a current paediatric first aid certificate must be on the premises and available at all times when children are present, and must accompany children on outings. Claire Foster will be first point of contact for EYFS first aid.

Staffing arrangements will always meet the needs of all children and ensure their safety. Children will usually be within sight and hearing of staff and will always be within sight or hearing. We always adhere to the statutory guidance for staff/child ratios.

Accident and Injury

An up to date first aid box is accessible to Reception staff (in practical area outside of the classroom). This box is checked regularly by staff and expiry dates are noted and stock is kept replenished. Staff must keep a written record of accidents or injuries and first aid treatment. Staff must inform parents and/or carers of any accident or injury sustained by the child on the same day, or as soon as reasonably practicable, of any first aid treatment given.

Home times

Staff must only release children into the care of individuals who have been notified by the parent, and must ensure that children do not leave the premises unsupervised. We must take all reasonable steps to prevent unauthorised persons entering the premises; all visitors must report to the school office to sign in and cannot be left to walk through the school premises unaccompanied by a member of staff.

If staff have any concern whatsoever around the suitability of the adult collecting the child (for example, if alcohol can be detected) they must ask the adult to wait whilst they seek advice from one of the designated safeguarding leaders.

Cameras and Mobile phones

To ensure the safety and welfare of all the children within our care, and to protect all staff from allegations, mobile phones must be switched off and kept in a secure place during school hours. Staff may use their phones whilst on their break, in the staff room, but never whilst working with children. No information regarding children or school practice must be shared outside of school or on any social media sites.

All parent helpers/students/volunteers will be requested to follow this same policy.

Please refer to our TLT Acceptable Use Policy.

IPADS do not leave the school premises.

Under no circumstances must cameras of any kind be taken into the bathrooms. At all times the camera/IPAD must be placed in a prominent place where it can be seen. Any information and images of children saved to a memory stick must be encrypted.

Images of children must not be saved to the hard drive of laptops and will be stored within the 'Shared Area' on the network.

All staff are aware of children whose parents do not give permission for their child's photographs to be published.

Managing behaviour

All staff must consistently promote positive behaviour.

Staff are trained to use effective de-escalation techniques and creative alternative strategies that are specific to the individual needs of children and learners.

Risk assessment are in place for any child who shows signs of challenging behaviours, these are updated and monitored and shared with all staff members.

Reasonable force is only used in strict accordance with the legislative framework to protect the child and learner and those around them. All incidents are reviewed, recorded and monitored and the views of the child or learner are sought and understood.

Missing Children

The safety and security of the children in our care at Dene House Primary is paramount. Every care is taken to ensure that the children are accounted for at all times when they are in our care. Staff maintain the appropriate high level of supervision throughout the session and are aware of the location of the children in their care at all times.

The number of children is checked regularly by frequent roll calls. However, in the unlikely event that after a roll call or at another time it is noticed that a child has gone missing, whether in school or out: The following procedures will be followed.

- Staff will maintain safety and well - being of other children and check whether the missing child has another commitment with the office staff.
- A roll call will be taken.
- A member of the Senior Leadership Team and at least one other member of staff will search the immediate vicinity or school grounds. Going to places at which the child was last seen, tracing the routes that they may have taken.
- If the child is not found after approximately 10 minutes, the Headteacher or Deputy will endeavour to contact the parents of the missing child by telephone.
- If after approximately 15 minutes the parents have not been contacted, the Headteacher or Deputy will contact the police.
- Once police arrive all relevant information about the child will be given. The police will then take over the search. A written record of the incident and actions taken should be made as soon as possible.

When the situation has been resolved, the SLT will review the reasons for this event happening and revise measures if necessary.

Whistleblowing

Whistleblowing has been defined as:

'the disclosure by an employee or professional of confidential information which relates to some danger, fraud or other illegal or unethical conduct connected with the work place, be it of the employee or his/her fellow employees' (Public Concern at Work Guidelines 1997).

OFSTED state that all staff should: "know how to make a complaint and understand policies on whistleblowing and how to manage other concerns about the practice of adults in respect of the safety and protection of children and learners.

The governing body is committed to high standards in all aspects of the school and will treat whistleblowing as a serious matter. In line with the governing body's commitment to openness, probity and accountability, members of staff are encouraged to report concerns which will be taken seriously, investigated and appropriate action taken in response.

Please refer to TLT Confidential Reporting Code (Whistleblowing).

Managing transitions

At the beginning of each session, the number of children attending is recorded and shared with all staff. Each time children come in from outdoor provision, they are counted before the door is closed.

Definitions:

Please note that for the purposes of this statement all persons under 18 years of age are classed as “children” or “young people”.

“Staff” includes any member of School or helpers employed to assist with a particular activity, e.g. School excursions and external visits.

“in loco parentis” - literally “in place of the parent”

“Event” - Any activity organised by the School.

Child Safeguarding Policy Statement This policy can be summarised in just one sentence:’

We have a duty of care.

Please read ALL sections whatever your specific role. Due to the nature of child safeguarding we must all be aware of each other’s specific roles and of our general duties involving young people. Those supervising young people in any capacity (as a mentor or teacher) are expected to show a duty of care in all aspects. The contents set out in this document and discussed in the various school training and briefing sessions constitutes the School’s “Child Safeguarding Policy.”

General Dos and Don’ts

- Do not touch the students. Resist a comforting hug or pat on the back.
- There is a fine line in a student’s perception of where comfort stops and harassment/assault starts.
- Do not make jokes about students’ personalities, gender, ethnic status, appearance, family, religion, etc.
- Do not assume backgrounds you know nothing of.
- Do not spend any time alone with a student in any room and do not block doorways.
- If a serious problem arises, do not feel you must handle it on your own. There should always be at least one person in a position of management available. If in any doubt please refer to a member of the Leadership Team for advice.
- NEVER promise confidentiality. We may not always be able to keep to this as in any real emergency or serious situation we will have to contact parents with information that we feel they need to know.

Fire

If you are teaching or supervising students indoors, be aware of the fire regulations for the School and know where the fire extinguishers are and where the fire exits are. If the Fire Alarm sounds, evacuate your classroom and proceed to the KS1 yard if possible with your class to be registered by you to check that no one is missing.

Health and Safety

You are responsible at all times for the safety of your class and yourself. Defects in building fabric, furnishings and electrical fittings should be reported to the School Business Manager immediately. Make sure that you adhere to all local and subject specific safety rules.

External Educational and Reward School Visits

Organisers of external educational visits will ensure that all locations are properly insured and risk assessed. Mr Leyland acting as the Educational Visits Coordinator (EVC) will assist with this. Here are some general points about visits you need to be aware of.

- You need to be absolutely sure of who is and who isn’t in your party.
- You should have a copy of a register.
- As an escort on visits, you need to make sure that your charges do not engage in any dangerous behaviour at any time.

- There should be enough staff (i.e. At least one member of staff per 5 students) on each visit to cope with any problems.
- Report serious incidents as soon as possible and do not hesitate to seek assistance. We should be over- rather than under-protective.
- Do not let anyone in your party go off on their own anywhere.
- Please report any wilful behaviour as soon as possible after your trip so that action may be taken and definitely do not condone bad or irresponsible behaviour.

Safeguarding pupils/students from being drawn into or supporting terrorism

Schools have a vital role to play in protecting pupils from the risks of extremism and radicalisation, a role which is underpinned by the Counter- Terrorism and Security Act 2015 “to have due regard to the need to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism.

Radicalisation refers to the process by which a person comes to support terrorism and forms of extremism leading to terrorism.

Extremism is defined by the Government in the Prevent Strategy as: Vocal or active opposition to fundamental British values, including democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty and mutual respect and tolerance of different faiths and beliefs. We also include in our definition of extremism calls for the death of members of our armed forces, whether in this country or overseas.

The Government’s Prevent Strategy has raised awareness of the specific need to safeguard children, young people and families from violent extremism and terrorism. There have been nationally situations in which extremist groups have attempted to radicalise children and young people to hold extreme views including views justifying political, religious, sexist or racist violence, or to steer them into a rigid and narrow ideology that is intolerant of diversity and leaves them vulnerable to future radicalisation.

Dene House Primary School values freedom of speech and the expression of beliefs / ideology as fundamental rights underpinning our society’s values. Both pupils/students and teachers have the right to speak freely and voice their opinions. However, freedom comes with responsibility and free speech that is designed to manipulate the vulnerable or that leads to violence and harm of others goes against the moral principles in which freedom of speech is valued.

Free speech is not an unqualified privilege; it is subject to laws and policies governing equality, human rights, community safety and community cohesion. The current threat from terrorism in the United Kingdom may include the exploitation of individuals, to involve them in terrorism or in activity in support of terrorism. The normalisation of extreme views may also make children and young people vulnerable to future manipulation and exploitation. Dene House Primary School is clear that this exploitation and radicalisation should be viewed as a safeguarding concern.

Dene House Primary School seeks to protect children and young people against the messages of all violent extremism including, but not restricted to, those linked to Islamist ideology, or to Far Right / Neo Nazi / White Supremacist ideology, Irish Nationalist and Loyalist paramilitary groups, and extremist Animal Rights movements.

Risk reduction

The school governors, the Head Teacher and the Designated Safeguarding Lead will assess the level of risk within the school and put actions in place to reduce any identified risks.

Procedure

Keeping children / young people safe from these risks is a safeguarding matter and should be approached in the same way as safeguarding children from other risks. When any member of staff has concerns that a pupil may be at risk of radicalisation or involvement in terrorism, they should speak with the school’s Single Point of Contact (SPOC) for safeguarding pupils from radicalisation and involvement in terrorism. This will normally be the Designated Safeguarding Lead who will have responsibility for assessing whether the pupil may be at risk of radicalisation, and where relevant, for referring the child to the Local Authority Channel Panel.

The SPOC for Dene House Primary School is Mr Blake (Headteacher).

Numerous factors can contribute to and influence the range of behaviours that are defined as violent extremism, but most young people do not become involved in extremist action. For this reason the appropriate interventions in any particular case may not have any specific connection to the threat of radicalisation, for example they may address mental health, relationship or drug/alcohol issues.

Please refer to our Prevent Policy a copy is available on the school website.

Safeguarding children/students from child exploitation

As a school we have a responsibility to do all we can to raise awareness of sexual exploitation and grooming and to identify and support any pupil who is at risk of abuse. To help keep our pupils safe from sexual exploitation and grooming we will:

- Promote healthy and safe relationships through Science and PHSE lessons. Older pupils will participate in Healthy Relationship Education, which will be led by school staff in support with the school nurse;
- Raise pupils' awareness of sexual exploitation and grooming at an age appropriate level through PHSE lessons, which will be led by staff;
- Raise staff awareness of sexual exploitation and grooming through staff meetings;
- Help parents to understand the issues by sharing information at parents' meetings and signposting through additional communication, e.g. newsletters;
- Contribute to multi-agency safeguarding and child protection arrangements;
- Participate in regular child protection training, which also includes information on CSE.

Emergency Contacts

FIRE POLICE AMBULANCE - 999

POLICE Non-Emergency - 101

Policy Evaluation The implementation of this policy will be monitored by the Headteacher and will be reviewed annually.