



The Priory School of Our Lady Of Walsingham



Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy

Reviewed by: Executive Committee

On:

Next review due: September 2024

Signature of Principal

Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy

This policy also applies to the EYFS.

The first duty of any School or place of education is to ensure the safety and security of all the children entrusted to its care. This is achieved by three means:

- The ethos and practice of each School
- The Policies in place to implement that practice within all legal requirements
- The legal requirements themselves.

But unless the ethos, culture and operation of the whole School make real these three means, Safeguarding is a word and not a reality that is embedded in the whole School's practice. Furthermore, Schools and places of education form part of a wider safeguarding system for children that includes a series of relevant agencies and authorities.

As Keeping Children Safe in Education (KCSIE) September 2023 notes: "Safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children is everyone's responsibility. Everyone who comes into contact with the children and their families has a role to play. In order to fulfil this responsibility effectively, all practitioners should make sure their approach is child centred. This means that they should consider, at all times, what is in the best interests of the child." Reporting of all concerns will enable the bigger picture to emerge.

Early help can be more effective than reacting later. No single practitioner can have a full picture of a child's needs and circumstances and so, if children and their families are to receive the right help at the right time, everyone who comes into contact with them has a role to play in identifying concerns, sharing information and taking immediate action by referring their concerns to the Designated Safeguarding Lead.

In the light of the Department of Education's current review of safeguarding issues related to sexual abuse and harassment, the School will address any reported concerns quickly, consistently and effectively so that pupils feel safe and well-supported both in School and in a wider context outside the School environment. The School will ensure that any recommendations made by the department's review, led by ISI, are adopted appropriately and that they will be reflected in related School policies.

KCSIE is statutory guidance from the Department for Education (the department) issued under Section 175 of the Education Act 2002, the Education (Independent School Standards) Regulations 2014, and the Non-Maintained Special Schools (England) Regulations 2015 and the Apprenticeships Skills, Children and Learning Act 2009. Schools and colleges in England must have regard to it when carrying out their duties to safeguard and promote the welfare of children. For the purposes of this guidance children includes everyone under the age of 18. Following the publication of the statutory guidance Working Together to Safeguard Children (June 2018), Local Safeguarding Children Boards (LSCBs) were replaced with Local Safeguarding Children's Partnerships (LSCPs), with the new arrangements to be implemented by 29th September 2019'. The Isle of Wight Safeguarding Children Partnership offer specific, local guidance for Schools.

- The policy also incorporates the non-statutory interim guidance: Corona virus (Covid-19): safeguarding in Schools, colleges, and other providers. (DfE May 2020).
- KCSIE 2020 and 2021 remain in force throughout the response to coronavirus (COVID-19).
- KCSIE January 2021:
 - An update made to the September 2020 version of KCSIE takes account of changes to recruitment after the UK left the EU. The changes relate to criminal record checks for overseas applicants. Further information is available in the DfE Guidance: Recruit teachers from overseas.
- KCSIE September 2021:
 - Updates have been added to reflect further changes in this version.

KCSIE September 2022:

- Updates have been added to reflect further changes in this version including the use of the term 'child on child' abuse to replace the former terminology of 'peer on peer' abuse.

KCSIE September 2023:

- Updates have been added to ensure effective filtering and monitoring of use of ICT in schools.

Appendices

- A. Letter from the IOW SCP 1st October 2019
 - B. Actions where a member of staff is concerned about a child (KCSIE 2019) C Additional advice and support – schedule of organisations (KCSIE 2019)
1. This policy applies to the whole School and meets the specific requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS). It is compliant with the Statutory Guidance Safeguarding Children and Safer Recruitment in Education 2007 and includes updated chapter 5: Dealing with allegations of abuse against teachers and other staff, revised October 2012. It has been revised to reflect changes in legislation resulting from Working Together to Safeguard Children dated March 2015, updated Feb 2017 (HM Government) and September 2018 and Keeping Children Safe in Education (DfE 2015 and updates effective from September 5th, 2016.) Further revision in August 2018 incorporates the latest changes to KCSIE effective from September 3rd, 2018 (plus additions 19th September 2018). The requirements of the additional statutory guidance ‘Disqualification under the Childcare Act 2006’ and ‘What to do if you’re worried a child is being abused’ dated March 2015 have been addressed. The School fully accepts its responsibilities under legislation for the Disclosure and Barring Service and this policy has been further updated to include the new version of WTTSC published in July 2018. Staff who work with, or are involved in the management of, the EYFS have been fully briefed on the advice from the DfE on the implications of disqualification. This includes staff in regulated activity in the School who work with or supervise the EYFS and children up to the age of 8, for example in Homework Club. Staff have been advised that ‘disqualification’ only applies to their personal status and not to members of their household unless they are running a playgroup within their home. Staff are reminded annually of their responsibility to inform the Principal of any reason why they may be disqualified from working with children. Staff have also been informed that the updated version of KCSIE 2020 includes the advice that if they have any concerns that the behaviour of a colleague in his/her own home environment may render them unsuitable to work with children, these should be reported to the Principal.

The policy is addressed to all members of staff and volunteers, is available to parents in hard copy on request and is published on the School website. It applies wherever staff or volunteers are working with pupils even where this is away from the School, for example at games or on an educational visit.

2. **All staff and volunteers have a copy of part 1 of KCSIE (September 2023)** and have had direct in-house training on the September 2023 updates. This is standard procedure at the beginning of every School year or as updates are published by the DfE. As part of this training, the changes to KCSIE 2023 have been highlighted and all staff required to read part 1. Staff have been made aware of the latest Government advice on the need for vigilance in identifying any signs of radicalisation and working with the local authorities to provide routes for dealing with such issues. The safeguarding lead has received Prevent training which has been shared with staff and forms part of staff induction training. (Prevent Duty Guidance for England and Wales July 2023).

The welfare of our pupils and pupils will always be our central concern informed by the School’s overriding ethic of valuing each child for him/herself alone, based on the Christian view that every person is of unique and irreplaceable value, and by all relevant legal requirements in force at the time. Pupils are actively encouraged to raise personal and general concerns with members of staff, their form teacher, their subject teacher, their Pastoral Lead, Heads of School and the Principal. The School is committed to meeting the needs of pupils presenting with potential mental health issues, to training staff to recognise warning signals and to delivering appropriate support. (Mental Health and Wellbeing provision in Schools [2018])

There are form periods every week for this purpose, and the form teacher sees his/her class at the beginning and the end of the day.

Pupils are also advised that they have the right to talk to any member of staff that they trust, irrespective of status in order to ensure ‘bridges of communication are open’.

To summarise

Safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children is defined as:

- Protecting children from maltreatment
- Preventing the impairment of children's mental or physical health or development
- Ensuring that children grow up in circumstances consistent with the provision of safe and effective care
- Taking action to enable all children to have the best outcomes

Training in September 2020 alerted staff to the importance of potential concerns regarding children's mental health resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic (June 2021: Contacts for pupils and parents facing mental health crises are given at the end of the policy).

3.

3.1. A series of interlocking meetings each week exists to ensure good and swift communication and pay particular attention to the welfare and well-being of individual pupils:

- There are regular meetings of the School Leadership Team (SLT) (weekly on Mondays) and the Strategic Executive Management Committees termly or as required.
- At the beginning of each term and, as necessary during the term, there is a full staff meeting.
- There are daily morning briefings to attend to day-to-day events and to flag any concerns about pupils across the School.
- Each week, there is a meeting between Junior School staff and the Head of Junior School to review Junior School matters (including EYFS).
- A weekly meeting is held between Senior School Staff and the Head of Senior School to review Senior School matters.
- There is a weekly meeting between prefects and the Head of Senior School and the Principal, to allow for good communication over matters as seen by pupils.

This regular cycle of communication puts checks and balances in place to ensure any matter of concern does not go unseen, unheard or unaddressed.

3.2. There are distinct Heads of Junior School, Senior School and Sixth Form. This allows various and complementary levels of both observation and communication. Each pupil will be known to his/her form teacher, subject teachers, first aiders, and Pastoral lead, SENCO, Head of School, Principal and House Captain. This gives a variety of channels to assist full and swift communication in case of concerns. The Principal and some members of the Senior Leadership Team are non-teaching staff. They are available at every point to address pupils, staff or parent concerns. Parents are actively encouraged to call in on the School and to use telephone and e-mail contact. Communication is essential to ensure the safety and well-being of pupils, and all these procedures are in place to aid and support this vital function of immediate accessible communication without which no proper invigilation can take place.

4. Priory School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. The School takes all **proper measures** to:

- Ensure that we practise safer recruitment in checking the suitability of staff and volunteers to work with children and young people in accordance with the regulations and guidance given in Safeguarding Children and Safer Recruitment in Education and the Education (Independent School Standards) (England) Regulations 2003 as amended in 2015, Safeguarding Children and Safer Recruitment in Education 2007, Working Together to Safeguard Children 2023, Keeping Children Safe in Education 2023.
- Ensure that where the School ceases to use the services of any person (whether employed, contracted, a volunteer or pupil) because that person was considered unsuitable to work with children, a prompt and detailed report is made, as required by law, to the Disclosure and

Barring Service within one month of the person leaving the School and full co-operation is extended to the DBS. ISI will be informed within 14 days.

- Ensure that the School pays due regard to Disqualification under the Childcare Act 2006 and its guidance on the School's legal duty to ensure that it does not knowingly employ any staff in the EYFS or relevant later years' provision who are disqualified, or potentially disqualified from working with children.
- Ensure that where staff from another organisation are working with our pupils on another site, unaccompanied by our staff, we have received written assurances that appropriate child protection checks and procedures apply to those staff, including overseas visits.
- Protect each pupil from any form of abuse, whether from an adult or another pupil, in particular any form of bullying be it verbal, physical, emotional, psychological or by use of communication devices or via the internet (see also Discipline & Anti-Bullying Policy) and ensure any allegation, disclosure or report is immediately dealt with by the appropriate safeguarding or disciplinary procedure.
- Be aware of the new guidance on child-on-child abuse, up-skirting and honour-based violence included in KCSIE 2023 including references to Relationship Education, information to help to protect children from mental health issues, domestic abuse, child criminal and sexual exploitation and dangers from 'county lines' drug distribution.
- Incorporate new guidance outlined in the ISI Review of safeguarding policies in Schools in relation to sexual abuse and harassment (April/May 2021).
- Be alert to signs of abuse both in the School and from outside.
- Report any suspicion or disclosure of abuse or inappropriate behaviour to the DSLs in accordance with the School's zero tolerance approach.
- Ensure all staff understand that they should be able to reassure victims of abuse that they are being taken seriously, that they are not causing a problem and that they will be supported and kept safe.
- Design and operate procedures which promote this policy.
- Design and operate procedures which, so far as possible, ensure that teachers and others who are innocent are not prejudiced by false allegations.
- Support children who have been abused in accordance with his/her agreed child protection plan.
- Be alert to the medical, emotional and/or physical needs of children, including those with SEND, CIN, LAC and liaise as appropriate with LADO/Children's Services.
- Ensure that staff are aware of methods to obtain early help [KCSIE 2023]. Guidance is available on the Isle of Wight Safeguarding Children Partnership website and an outline of the procedures is to be found as Appendix B.
- Raise staff awareness of how to recognise potential mental health issues by providing training and ensuring that there are clear paths for referral to effective help for all members of the School.
- Provide guidance for staff on ways to support pupils and their parents and colleagues on the loss of loved ones. (Bereavement training was provided in September 2022 by a trainer from the local hospice).
- Operate robust and sensible health & safety procedures and sound first aid procedures with appropriately trained staff.
- Ensure that more than one emergency contact number is in place for each pupil. We do use phones for photos but delete from device (including Recycle Bin) once shared.
- Take all practicable steps to ensure that School premises are as secure as circumstances permit and have clear policy and practice as to doors being locked, access to keys, and hours of access and records of clearly identified visitors.
- Operate clear and supportive policies on drugs, alcohol and substance misuse in conjunction with the local police, welfare and medical services, including a "zero- tolerance" policy on smoking, or use of drugs or alcohol and ensure such policies are known to pupils, staff and parents and published on the School's website which is constantly referred to in communications and widely advertised.
- Ensure that personal mobile phones and cameras are not used by any staff in the EYFS setting and, as a matter of good practice, staff will not use mobile phones in any classroom, or take and store any photographs of pupils except by means of a School camera or device.

- Note the revision of teaching of online safety and its inclusion in relevant policies, the curriculum, the role of the DSL and parent engagement. This is part of the upcoming RSE Policy which has been in place since academic year 2022-2023. Training given to staff in September 2023 and updates to KCSIE 2023 reflected in changes to School's filtering and monitoring.
- Support Government initiatives outlined in the Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015 which "places a duty on specified authorities, including local authorities and childcare, education and other children's services providers to have due regard to the need to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism (the Prevent duty)". The Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015 will also place a duty on local authorities to ensure Channel panels are in place. Panels will assess the extent to which identified individuals are vulnerable to being drawn into terrorism. Schools and colleges are listed in the Act as partners of the panel. The relevant provisions of the Act will come into force on 12 April 2015."

5. Duties of proprietor, employees, parents/volunteers

Every employee and staff member of the School as well as every volunteer who assists the School is under a general legal duty:

- To protect children from abuse.
- To be aware of the School's practice and policies on Child Protection and to follow them.
- To know how to access and implement the procedures, independently if necessary.
- In dealing with a child protection issue, to remain as objective as possible. Never assume that you "know" which categories of children are at risk.
- To keep a record of any significant allegation, disclosure, conversation or event. Information should be recorded verbatim, if possible. Do not prompt, lead or suggest information to the child. Guidance to be found on page 16, part 1, KCSIE September 2023.
- To be aware of the mandatory reporting duty with regards to Female Genital Mutilation/ honour-based violence (KCSIE September 2023).
- To be aware of the implications of the Prevent Duty and routes for reporting concerns.
- To be aware of the updates to existing requirements with regards to the admissions register and children missing from education and children absent from education, including those who elect to be home educated (KCSIE 2023).
- To refer any concerns to the Designated Safeguarding Lead (or in her absence, one of the other Designated Safeguarding Leads) immediately.
- To refer to the Principal, any incidents involving allegations brought against a colleague. (Please see para below on Staff Allegations).
- To undertake appropriate training including regular refresher training.
- To have regard to current guidance issued by the DfE and associated regulations including the Education (Independent School Standards) (England) Regulations 2003 as amended and any future updates).
- To understand that data protection fears should not be a barrier to information sharing as the safety of the child should be of the utmost importance. Fears about sharing information cannot be allowed to stand in the way of the need to promote the welfare and protect the safety of children. Concerns about a child override any data protection issues.
- To be aware of the ISI Review into sexual abuse and harassment in Schools (April/May 2021) and to adopt any recommendations from the review. To amend related policies as required: Code of Practice, Anti-bullying policy, SEND, Use of the Internet policy, RSE policy.

Every disclosure or suspicion of abuse from within or outside the School will be initially considered by the Designated Safeguarding Lead and, if considered appropriate, will be referred to an external agency such as Hampshire's Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub. In each case, if the matter implicates a member of our staff, a volunteer or someone in the wider children's workforce, the matter should be referred to Barbara Piddington or Mark Blackwell, the local authority designated officers for Hampshire Children's Services (01962 876364, child.protection@hants.gov.uk) to whom any referral will be made.

6. The Designated Teachers for Child Protection – Role and Responsibilities

Miss Katie Pragnell is the Designated Safeguarding Lead for child protection; two further members of staff have also received training to be DSLs for their section of the School: see summary at end of this document. All are responsible for the safety of children in the EYFS.

7. The main responsibilities of the Designated Staff are:

- To be the first point of contact for parents, pupils, teaching and non-teaching staff and external agencies in all matters of child protection.
- To be fully conversant with and to follow the local interagency procedures as agreed through the Isle of Wight Safeguarding Children Partnership (IOW SCP) and this Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy and procedures.
- To be available to all staff of the School community for consultation on child protection issues.
- To co-ordinate the child protection and safeguarding procedures in the School including responsibility for online safety and training.
- To maintain an ongoing training programme for all School employees.
- To monitor the keeping, confidentiality and storage of records in relation to child protection and ensure that they are kept separately from pupil School files.
- To ensure that processes for passing safeguarding information to next Schools and filing information from other Schools are in place.
- To initiate a safeguarding response for children missing from education and children absent from education.
- To liaise with the child protection social worker and any police officer undertaking any child protection enquiries or investigations
- To ensure that appropriate action is taken in the School and that procedures are followed in actual or suspected cases of child abuse.
- To contact the relevant persons in the local authority to seek advice on concerns brought by staff. To also check whether the family involved is known to the children's social care services.
- To monitor records of any pupils in the School subject to Child Protection plans on the Child Protection Register (CPR) to ensure that these are maintained and updated as notification is received.
- To liaise with other professionals to ensure that children subject to child protection plans are monitored.
- To take part, where appropriate, in the child protection conferences or reviews.
- To oversee safer recruitment procedures.
- To inform the social care services in writing when a child subject to a child protection plan moves to another School and to inform the new School of the child's child protection status. Children who may be covered by a plan can be; A Child in Need, a Looked after Child and a Child with an Education Health Care Plan (EHCP).
- To monitor, in consultation with the Designated Staff and the SLT, staff development and training needs with regard to child protection issues and to provide training as appropriate
- To ensure that training is current and relevant (please see further paragraphs 9 and 15 below) and provided by recognised agencies or personnel (this would normally be as supplied by the Local Authority) and each member of staff receives training relevant to their role as identified in Working Together to Safeguard Children 2023, Keeping Children Safe in Education, September 2023.
- To offer opportunities for raising pupil awareness of child protection issues and developing strategies for ensuring their own protection, without causing undue alarm, in an age-appropriate format.

In the absence of the Designated Safeguarding Lead, the Deputy Designated Safeguarding Leads, Mr Simon Lynch and Mrs Jennie Hull will take responsibility for child protection issues within the School. Information will be shared appropriately between the DSLs.

8. The **Designated Safeguarding Lead** is Miss Katie Pragnell, who is a member of the SLT reports on a regular basis.

The **Deputy Designated Safeguarding Leads** are:

- Mr Simon Lynch (Junior School)
- Mrs Jennie Hull (EYFS)

The **Governing Body Safeguarding Lead** is:

- Mrs Gillian Bilbo (gillianbilbo@psiow.com)

These Designated Staff may be contacted on the School number 01983 861222. They may and should be approached without appointment at any time if there is any matter of concern relating to Child Protection, Child Welfare, or Safeguarding Issues and any suspicion, belief and/or evidence of abuse of whatever kind. They meet regularly with the Designated Safeguarding Lead.

This takes priority over all other aspects of School activity as the welfare of the pupils and staff is the first and paramount responsibility of the School management.

9. If one of the Designated Staff is unavailable or is him/herself the subject of an allegation or disclosure of abuse, his/her duties will be carried out by the **other Designated Staff Members**.

If none of these Designated Staff is available or one or all are the subject of an allegation of abuse, the Principal and other Senior Staff on the Executive Management are to be informed without consulting the Designated Staff first. These are Mr Tony Adlam and Mrs White (School Manager), Mrs Emma Soar (Vice Principal and Head of Senior School) and Mrs Ana Barnes (Head of Junior School). If the allegation pertains to the Principal, the DSL should report to the proprietor without informing the Principal. The LADO is responsible for the whole process.

If any pupil or child or member of staff feels unable to approach any of the above for good reason, then he or she should make direct contact the local authority Children Reception team or the Police or the Designated Officers (contact details are given at the end of the policy).

These independent contact details are to be published on the School website and always posted in both the First Aid Room and the School Office in full public view.

10. The Designated Safeguarding Leads will have undertaken basic **child protection training** and training in inter-agency working and will attend refresher training at two yearly intervals. The training to be undertaken shall be of standard approved by the IOW LCSP.

11. **Child Abuse: Categories and Definitions:** detailed at the end of this policy.

12. Whistleblowing

All staff are required to report to the Designated Safeguarding Leads any concern or allegations about School practices or the behaviour of colleagues which are likely to put pupils at risk of abuse or other serious harm. There will be no retribution or disciplinary action taken against a member of staff for making such a report provided that it is done in good faith. Where an allegation is made against a Designated Safeguarding Lead the matter should be reported to the Principal. If the allegation is made against the Principal¹, the matter should be reported immediately to the Local Authority Designated Officer.

The safety of our pupils is everyone's responsibility and so all staff have a duty to speak up about any concerns about a pupil. Anyone can make a referral (*KCSIE 2023*). *Staff should refer to the Staff Handbook regarding the Whistleblowing Policy. The NSPCC whistleblowing helpline is also available for staff to seek confidential advice: 0800 028 0285, 8.00 am- 8.00 pm Monday to Friday or email: help@nspcc.org.uk*

¹ The Principal is also the proprietor of the School.

Procedures

13. Initial allegation or disclosure

A member of staff suspecting or hearing an allegation or disclosure of abuse:

- Must ensure that the child knows that their concerns are taken seriously.
- Must listen carefully to the child and keep an open mind. Staff should not take a decision as to whether the abuse has taken place.
- Must not ask the child leading questions, that is, a question which suggests its own answer (e.g. “was it your father?” or “did this take place on Tuesday when you were away?”)
- Must reassure the child that their wishes will be taken into account but must not give a guarantee of absolute confidentiality, explaining that this will ensure his or her concern will be dealt with by a proper person; and above all to reassure the child and impart confidence that any improper conduct will not be allowed to continue, and that the child is safe and that is the most important concern of all. The member(s) of staff should explain in the most reassuring way possible that he or she needs to pass the information to the Designated Staff Member who will ensure that the correct action is taken.
- Must keep a sufficient written record of the conversation. The record (see 15 below) should include the date, time and place of the conversation and the essence of what was said and done by whom and in whose presence. The record should be signed and dated (including the time it was written) by the person making it and by the other staff member present and should use names, not initials. The record must be kept securely and handed to the Designated Safeguarding Lead as soon as is possible and preferably immediately after any meeting. These records, as with staff personnel records, are either to be kept under secure lock and key on premises. They must never be left where they can be accessed by any unauthorised personnel unless a Designated Safeguarding Lead is present throughout.

14. Preserving Evidence

All evidence (for example scribbled notes, mobile phones containing text messages, clothing, and computers), must be safeguarded and preserved. Note, however, that it is not necessary to view or record all times on a phone. It is never appropriate to view images of children on their phones, even when these form evidence.

15. Recording

It is essential to make brief notes as soon as possible after the meeting. This may be possible in the meeting itself and should be verbatim not with later editing:

- Write up notes in full and include time, date, place, full names, signature, using the Priory School report form.
- Describe observable behaviour e.g. was shaking, continued to cry, constantly moved around the room. (Do not interpret these features)
- It is important that you record the actual words spoken by the child wherever possible. Do not worry if others may find these words offensive or open to interpretation.
- Make a final note clearly demarcated on the impression made on the record-keeper of those intangible elements, atmosphere, levels of anxiety etc. This is to be the only subjective part of the record and clearly marked as such: in my professional opinion.

16. Reporting

All suspicions or allegations of abuse must be immediately reported to the Designated Safeguarding Lead, or if the suspicion or allegation involves one of the Designated Staff, then to the other or Senior Staff as laid down in para 9 above.

17. Action by the Designated Safeguarding Lead

The action to be taken will take into account:

- The local inter-agency procedures of the Isle of Wight Safeguarding Children Partnership, LADO and children’s social care services, Children and Families Branch of the local authority, Educational Welfare Service and the Police

- The nature and seriousness of the suspicion or disclosure. A disclosure or allegation involving a serious criminal offence will always be referred to the Children and Families branch or the Police without further investigation within the School. The Designated Staff Member will in all cases have regard to the whether the issue of serious harm to the pupil or others arises. In such circumstances a referral will be made to the Local Authority Designated Officer.
- The wishes of the pupil who has made a disclosure or allegation, provided that the pupil is of sufficient understanding and maturity and properly informed. However, there may be times when the situation is so serious that decisions may need to be taken, after all appropriate consultation, that override a pupil's wishes.
- The wishes of the complainant's parents, provided they have no interest which is in conflict with the pupil's best interests and that they are properly informed. Again, it may be necessary, after all appropriate consultation, to override parental wishes in some circumstances. If the Designated Staff Member is concerned that disclosing information to parents would put a child at risk, he or she will take further advice from the relevant professionals before making a decision to disclose. Please note that child protection concerns override any data protection issues.
- The duties of confidentiality, so far as applicable; it must be made clear to the child that this cannot be promised and that their own safety is the main concern.
- The lawful rights and interests of the School community as a whole including its employees and its insurers.

If there is room for doubt as to whether a referral should be made, the Designated Staff Member may consult with appropriate professionals.

However, as soon as sufficient concern exists that a child may be at risk of significant harm, a referral will be made without delay. If the initial referral is made by telephone, the Designated Safeguarding Lead will confirm the referral (and provide the evidence) in writing to the relevant authorities within 24 hours. If no response or acknowledgment is received within three working days, the Designated Safeguarding Lead will contact the agency again and as required until the matter is satisfactorily resolved. Staff have been advised to contact the DSL if they become aware that a pupil is at risk of harm over the weekend on a School holiday.

18. Referral guidelines

A referral to the local authority or Police will be made in accordance with the above guidelines and procedures.

19. External agencies

Whether or not the School decides to refer a particular allegation or disclosure to the local authority or the police, the parents and pupil will be informed in writing of their right to make their own complaint or referral to the LADO or Isle of Wight Council or the Hampshire.

Constabulary and Children's Services will be provided with contact names, addresses and telephone numbers, as appropriate, which will also be generally available in this policy (see para 33 below).

20. Monitoring of Low-Level Safeguarding Concerns in School

All teacher concerns regarding a child protection issue should be discussed with the Designated Safeguarding Lead (with the exception of concerns about a Designated Staff Member where the procedure outlined in para 9 applies). However, anyone can make a referral as in *KCSIE 2023*. If multiple referrals are made, the local agencies will link these and take appropriate action.

Often there are insufficient grounds or evidence to suggest referral to an outside agency. But full and proper record-keeping will ensure that if evidence accumulates any pattern can be speedily identified. It must be stressed that the absence of clear evidence is not sufficient reason to ignore a concern. It may be that the Designated Safeguarding Lead will contact the relevant agencies to seek clarification on what action should be taken and take advice of other referrals have already been made. Updates on the reporting of low-level concerns (*KCSIE September 2023*) have been incorporated into the relevant staff policies.

21. Allegations against Staff Members

The School adopts procedures for dealing with allegations against staff, supply staff and contractors (and volunteers who work with children) that aim to strike a balance between the need to protect children from abuse and the need to protect staff and volunteers from false or unfounded allegations. These procedures follow the guidance in Chapter 5 of Safeguarding Children and Safer Recruitment in Education (DfE April 2011, updated April 2012) and part 4 of KCSIE 2023. Suspension will not necessarily be an automatic response to an allegation. Full consideration will be given to all the options. No action will be taken without first consulting the Local Authority Designated Officer.

Where an allegation is made against a Designated Safeguarding Lead the matter should be reported to the Principal. If the allegation is made against the Principal, the matter should be reported immediately to the Local Authority Designated Officer.

22. Training

All staff are to be supplied with a copy of the latest Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy (hard copy or by email) and a summary: Priory School: Safeguarding Pocket Guide for Staff. The policy is to be revisited at staff meetings at start of each term and as part of the induction procedure for new staff.

All staff will receive regular training and will be informed promptly of any changes in legislation. Staff completed online training on 'Prevent Strategies' and 'FGM' at the start of the Autumn term 2021. Further training by an external advisor was delivered January 2023. Designated Safeguarding Leads are to attend appropriate training courses at a minimum of every 2 years. Detailed guidance derived from these training courses is to be given to staff to ensure that their behaviour and actions do not place pupils or themselves at risk of harm, or of allegations of harm to a pupil, in particular in regard to any form of physical restraint. A record book is kept in the Principal's office for this purpose. A separate book is maintained for EYFS.

23. Reporting to the Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS)

The School will ensure that where it ceases to use the services of any person (whether employed, contracted, a volunteer or pupil) because that person was considered unsuitable to work with children, a prompt and detailed report is made to the DBS within one month of the person leaving the School and that full co-operation is extended to the DBS.

24. Reporting to ISI

The School will inform ISI of any allegations of serious harm or abuse by any person living, working or looking after children on the premises of the School (whether that allegation relates to harm or abuse committed on the premises or elsewhere), or any other abuse which is alleged to have taken place on the premises and of the action taken in respect of those allegations when they are proven substantial by the School's procedure of investigation. The School will inform ISI of substantiated allegations as soon as reasonably practicable but in any event within 14 days of the investigation report being completed.

25. Annual Review

This policy and its operation are also to be reviewed every year during the Christmas term, is to be made available on the School website and to parents and is to be available in the School office if requested. The contact details contained in para 31 below are also to be always posted on the School notice board. It will also be updated to reflect any changes occurring during the year preceding review.

26. Allegations against pupils

A case involving an allegation or disclosure of abuse by a pupil will be referred to the Local Authority Children and Families Branch for consideration.

The School will take reasonable action to ensure the safety and welfare of all pupils involved including the pupil or pupils accused of abuse. If it is necessary for a pupil to be interviewed by the police in relation to allegations of abuse, the School will ensure that, subject to the advice of the relevant agencies, parents are informed as soon as possible, and that the pupil is supported during the interview by an appropriate adult.

27. Suspected harm from outside the School

A member of staff who suspects that a pupil is suffering harm from outside the School should listen to information from the child with tact and sympathy using "open" and not leading questions, but should immediately, if not prior to this, inform and consult with the School's Designated Safeguarding Leads.

The procedure to follow is as section 13 above.

Parents will normally be kept informed as appropriate of any action to be taken under these procedures. However, there may be circumstances when the Designated Staff Members will need to consult the LADO/ IOW SCP before discussing details with parents.

28. Secure School Premises

The School will take all practicable steps to ensure that School premises are as secure as circumstances permit. Staff wear identification lanyards. DSLs wear blue lanyards to stand apart. Upgrades to the School CCTV equipment ensure that the site can be monitored at all times in the School office.

The School keeps a Visitors Book at Reception. All visitors must sign in on arrival and sign out on departure and are escorted whilst on School premises by a member of staff or an appropriately vetted volunteer. All visitors will be given a name badge, with the title 'Visitor' which must be clearly displayed and worn at all times whilst on the School premises, and a summary of the School safeguarding policy.

29. Monitoring

- The Designated Safeguarding Leads will report to the Principal and the SLT before the start of the Autumn term who will assess how the duties under the Safeguarding Children obligations have been discharged and provide regular updates.
- A suitably trained member of the SLT will undertake a strategic review of School safeguarding procedures and report to the Principal and Executive Management Committee at the termly Strategic Management Meetings.
- In the event of any serious allegation or disclosure of abuse and above all in the event of any referral to an external agency, an immediate review will be set in hand as in Para A) above of the Child Protection procedures and their effectiveness.
- Any deficiencies or weaknesses in regard to Child Protection arrangements are to be remedied without delay and have priority over all other issues excepting child protection and pupil welfare itself.

30. Essential Information

Designated Safeguarding Lead:

- Miss K Pragnell

The Deputy Designated Safeguarding Leads are:

- Mr S Lynch (Junior School)
- Mrs J Hull (EYFS)

All can be contacted on 01983 861222.

31. Agencies

ISI (Independent Schools Inspectorate)

CAP House, 9-12 Long Lane, London, EC1A 9HA. 0207 600 0100. General. General enquiries.
e: info@isi.

Disclosure and Barring Service:

(Vetting & Barring Scheme for those working with children)

PO Box 3963, Royal Wootton Bassett, SN4 4HH. Tel: 0300 200 190

customerservices@dbs.gov.uk

[HIPS Procedures website: \(see appendix A\)](#)

The IOW statutory safeguarding partners have agreed to work in partnership with the statutory safeguarding partners for Hampshire, Portsmouth and Southampton, to ensure coherence in safeguarding arrangements across the wider geographical area. The arrangements for this collaboration are known locally as 'HIPS'. This website provides staff from all relevant agencies with access to the full suite of local children's safeguarding policies, procedures and guidance that should be used to inform any individual agency policies. <http://hipsprocedures.org.uk/>

[MASH: Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub](#)

- Call 0300 555 1384 during office hours: 8.30am to 5pm Monday to Thursday; 8.30am to 4.30pm on Friday.
- Call 0300 555 1373 at all other times to contact the Out of Hours service.

This is an agency representing Hampshire & Isle of Wight. Professionals should complete the Inter Agency Referral Form (IARF) found on the following link:

- <https://www.hants.gov.uk/socialcareandhealth/childrenandfamilies/safeguardingchildren/childprotection/mash#step-3>

[Hampshire Children's services: 0300 555 1384 \(as above\)](#)

Childrens.services@hants.gov.uk

- Out of hours: 0300 555 1373

[Isle of Wight Safeguarding Children Partnership:](#)

- Can be contacted at scp@iow.gov.uk
- www.iowscp.org.uk 01983 814545
- A duty LADO (Local Authority Designated Officer) working for Hampshire & IOW takes all calls and, when appropriate, refers to a LADO from a team of professionals to investigate.

The number for the LADO is 01962 876364 and the contact details are:

- Email address: child.protection@hants.gov.uk
- There is no change to the threshold for referrals.
- The Children and Family Services Reception team/ Children's Social Care may also be contacted on 0300 300 0117. (This a 24-hour number for the public).
- In emergency, dial 999 and contact the police.

[Professional's line for referrals](#)

- 0300 300 0901

[Isle of Wight Education & Inclusion Service](#)

School enrolment, attendance, exclusions

- Thompson House Sandy Lane Newport, Isle of Wight PO30 3NA 01983 823151
- Open Mon-Thurs: 8.30am- 4.45pm; Friday 8.30am-4.30pm
- Website: www.iwight.com/education
- The current contact is Dave Edmonds. 01983 823151, dave.edmonds@iow.gov.uk

[Anti-Bullying Text Line](#)

- 07976 009494
- Freephone 0800 0286464

Government Abuse in Education

- Dedicated helpline in conjunction with the NSPCC
- 0800 136 663 or email: help@nspcc.org.uk

Hampshire Constabulary: central referral unit

- 02380 745399 or Constabulary: 0845 845 4545; in emergency dial 999
- cru@hampshire.pnn.police.uk; contact: Duty Sergeant
- Open Mon-Fri: 7 am- 8pm; Sat, Sun, Bank Holidays: 8am – 4pm

Guidance for mental health crises

- Youngminds' Parents Helpline: 0808 802 5544 (free from mobiles and landlines)
- Youngminds' Crisis Messenger (for anyone experiencing a mental health crisis): Text YM 85258
- Childline: 24-hour helpline 0800 111. This number is displayed around the School

CEOP: Child Exploitation and Online Protection Centre

- 0870 000 3344
- www.ceop.police.uk www.thinkuknow.co.uk

NSPCC

- Will give confidential advice
- 42, Curtain Road, London, EC2A 2NH
- www.nspcc.org.uk
- Tel: 0808 800 5000

Child line

- Tel: 0800 1111
- www.childline.org.uk

St Mary's Hospital

- Parkhurst Road Newport, Isle of Wight PO30 5TG
- Tel: 01983 822099

Effective date of this policy: September 2023

(Reviewed and renewed each year before the start of the autumn term or to reflect changes in legislation)

Circulation Executive Management; all Staff; Volunteers; PSA (Parents' Association) Committee; website; School office; hard copy to parents on request

Legislation

Section 157/175 of the Education Act 2002 & the Education (Independent Schools Standards) (England) Regulations 2015

Part 3 section 7a, 10, 11 and 13 and the document 'Working Together 2018'

- Requiring proprietors of independent Schools to have arrangements to safeguard and promote the welfare of children who are pupils at the School.
- Amendments to legislation from HM Government applied as needed.
- The LEA shall make arrangements for ensuring the functions conferred on them in their capacity as a LEA are exercised with a view to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children.
- Section 11 and section 13 covers Independent School providers and how Schools can fulfil their duties in respect of safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children.
- Section 10 refers to individual organisation responsibilities under their safeguarding responsibilities.

Authorised by the Proprietor E J Matyjaszek BA (Oxon)

Date: September 2021

Section 11: Child Abuse: Categories and Definitions: further details may be found in KCSIE 2023.

Possible signs of abuse include (but are not limited to):

- The pupil saying s/he has been abused or asking a question which gives rise to that inference.
- No reasonable or consistent explanation for a pupil's injury; the injury is unusual in kind or location; there have been a number of injuries; there is a pattern to the injuries.
- The pupil's behaviour standing out from the group as either being extreme model behaviour or extremely challenging behaviour; or there is a sudden change in the pupil's behaviour not explicable by known factors.
- The pupil asking to drop subjects with a particular teacher or with a particular class or group and seems reluctant to discuss the reasons.
- The pupil's development being delayed for reasons not clear or obvious.
- The pupil losing or gaining weight or their energy level changing for no apparent reason.
- The pupil appears neglected, e.g. dirty, hungry, inadequately clothed.
- The pupil being reluctant to go home, or being openly rejected by his/her parents or carers or showing excessive anxiety or fear at encountering parents or carers.

All staff should have an awareness of safeguarding issues that can put children at risk of harm. Behaviours linked to issues such as drug taking and or alcohol misuse, deliberately missing education and consensual and non-consensual sharing of nude and semi-nude images and/or videos⁹ can be signs that children are at risk. (paragraph 31 KCSIE 2023).

Physical Abuse

This can include, for example, non-accidental cuts, bruises, wounds, burns, fractures, bites, deliberate poisoning, attempted drowning, attempted smothering and fabricated or induced illness. Children can be abused by an adult in a family or in the community or by another child. It can take place wholly online or technology may be used to facilitate offline abuse.

Possible signs of Physical Abuse include (but are not limited to):

- Unexplained injury or refusal to explain or discuss them.
- Cigarette burns.
- Long bruises (possibly made by a belt), weals or other visible marks.
- Teeth marks.
- Fingertip/nail/slap marks or bruises.
- History of bruises/injuries with inconsistent explanations.

- Bilateral black eyes.
- Self-destructive comments, possibly repeated, or tendencies.
- Marked aggression towards others.
- Untreated injuries.
- Fear of medical treatment.
- Unexplained or unaccounted for patterns of absence (to avoid exposure of injury or due to parental retention).

Emotional Abuse

This category deals with the persistent or severe emotional ill treatment of a child, which has a severe adverse effect upon the behaviour and emotional development of that child. Its diagnosis will require medical, psychological, psychiatric, social and educational assessment.

It is accepted that all abuse involves emotional abuse but this category supersedes only when it is the main or the sole form of abuse.

Emotional abuse may involve conveying to a child that they are valued only in so far as they meet the needs of another person or may feature age or developmentally inappropriate expectations being imposed on children. It may also involve seeing or hearing the ill- treatment of another. It may involve serious bullying (including cyber- bullying).

Possible signs of Emotional Abuse

- The child is developmentally delayed
- Inappropriateness of social responses
- Self-mutilation
- Extreme passivity or aggression
- Truancy from School or running away from home
- Drug or Solvent abuse (either in the child or in its principal carer/s)
- Excessive fear of situations of people
- Social Isolation
- Depression
- Pressure (possibly when carers are unstable emotionally or behaviourally)
- Neglect

Sexual Abuse and Harassment

Sexual Abuse is defined as the involvement of dependent (legally under 18), developmentally immature children and adolescents in sexual activities they do not truly comprehend, to which they are unable to give informed consent. This does not necessarily involve violence.

The Department of Education has responded to current heightened awareness of the repercussions of sexual abuse and harassment by setting up a review, led by ISI. Sexual abuse and harassment can be defined as: 'when thoughts, behaviours and attitudes in a society have the effect of normalizing sexual violence'. This can lead to a society where sexual violence against women is very common and often trivialized, glamorized and normalized with the result that women and girls may feel less safe in their daily lives than do men and boys. It can impact upon all ages and genders.

The School will ensure any recommendations made by the ISI review are adopted so that all members of the School community feel safe within the School and that any disclosures made about threatening events outside School are appropriately recorded and acted upon.

Appropriate statements will be added to related School policies: Anti-bullying, Code of Conduct, RSE policy, SEND policy.

The key elements in any definition of sexual abuse are:

- The betrayal of trust and responsibility.
- Abuse of power for the purpose of the sexual gratification of the abuser. This may also include non-contact activities, such as grooming a child in preparation for abuse (including via the internet).

- The inability of the child to consent. The age of consent to any form of sexual activity is 16, regardless of gender or sexual orientation.

Possible signs of sexual abuse:

- Depression, suicidal tendencies, self-harming
- Anorexic or bulimic symptoms
- Acting in a sexually inappropriate manner towards adults/peers and/or sexual display or manifest seeking attention in a sexual manner
- Unexplained pregnancies
- Truancy/running away from home
- Seeking guidance for a “friend with a problem of abuse”
- Sexually abusing a younger child/sibling
- Sudden changes in School or work habits
- Fear of people
- Abnormal precociousness or aggression
- Chronic medical problems (stomach pains/headaches)
- Withdrawn, isolated, excessively isolated
- Genital/abdominal or anal injury or pain

Neglect

- This is the persistent or severe neglect of a child, which results in serious impairment of that child’s health or behaviour.
- This may be exposure to danger or by repeated failure to attend to the physical needs and developmental needs of a child.
- The non-organic failure of a child to thrive may result from neglect of a child but will always require medical diagnosis by appropriate exclusion of organic causes.
- The failure to ensure adequate supervision (including the use of inadequate carers).

Possible signs of neglect:

- Failure to thrive (looks thin emaciated, unwell, below average height, weight, lacking usual energy, excessively tired)
- Unusually hungry
- Has regular accidents especially burns
- Poor personal hygiene
- Avoidance of School medicals
- Tiredness
- Reluctance to go home
- Poor social relationships
- Frequent lateness/non-attendance
- Inappropriate clothing

Authorised by the Principal, Mr David EJJ Lloyd

September 2023

Appendix A

Letter from the IOW SCP

Isle of Wight Safeguarding Children Partnership

Enquiries to: Sophie Butt: Direct Line: 01962 876231

Email: sophie.butt@hants.gov.uk

Date: Tuesday 1st October 2019

Dear Colleague

We are writing to share with you the new arrangements for the Isle of Wight Safeguarding Children Partnership (IOWSCP). You will be aware that following the publication of the statutory guidance Working Together to Safeguard Children in June 2018, Local Safeguarding Children Board's (LSCBs) were replaced with Local Safeguarding Children's Partnership's (LSCPs), with the new arrangements to be implemented by 29th September 2019.

Helping and protecting children through a coordinated approach to safeguarding children is everyone's responsibility. Both the Children and Social Work Act 2017 (the Act) and Working Together to Safeguard Children 2018 (Working Together 2018) state that safeguarding partners and relevant agencies must have regard to any guidance published by the Secretary of State. Working Together 2018 outlines the core legal requirements and key responsibilities for all partners, making it clear what individuals, organisations and agencies must and should do to keep children safe. These include the duties placed on organisations and individuals under Section 11 of the Children's Act 2004, as well as the specific duties for individual agencies to promote the welfare of children and ensure they are protected from harm (Section 2 of Working Together 2018).

Through collaborative working across organisations and agencies who work with children, young people and families, including those who work with parents/carers, the ambition of our arrangements is that everyone can recognise, respond and fulfil their duties to ensure that children, young people and families are effectively safeguarded and supported.

The IOWSCP is established in accordance with the Act and Working Together 2018. The IOWSCP provides the safeguarding arrangements under which the safeguarding partners and relevant agencies work together to coordinate their safeguarding services, identify and respond to the needs of children on the Isle of Wight, commission and publish local child safeguarding practice reviews and provide scrutiny to ensure the effectiveness of the arrangements. Working Together 2018 explains that the three safeguarding partners in relation to a local authority area are:

- The Local Authority
- Isle of Wight Council a Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) for an area any part of which falls within the local authority area
- Hampshire and Isle of Wight Partnership of Clinical Commissioning Groups
- The Chief Officer of Police for an area any part of which falls within the local authority area
- Hampshire Constabulary

The strength of local partnership working is predicated on the safeguarding partners working together collaboratively with other agencies whose involvement the safeguarding partners consider is required to safeguard and promote the welfare of children. The safeguarding partners are obliged to set out within their arrangements which organisations are required to work as part of the new arrangements. These organisations and agencies are referred to as 'relevant agencies'.

More information on the work and governance of the IOWSCP can be found in our New Arrangements document. Organisations, agencies and practitioners should be aware of, and comply with, this plan set out by the safeguarding partners.

We are writing to you to confirm that your organisation has been named as a 'relevant agency' of the IOWSCP. IOWSCP relevant agencies are organisations and agencies, as set out by the safeguarding partners, who are required to work as part of the new arrangements to safeguard and promote the

welfare of local children. Further information on what constitutes a relevant agency can be found in Working Together 2018, and the full list of IOWSCP relevant agencies is published in the New Arrangements document reference above. Relevant agencies are required to:

- Fully engage with the Isle of Wight Safeguarding Children Partnership functions where required. For example, attending meetings of the IOWSCP when invited, or by providing quarterly data and performance information where requested to by the IOWSCP Partnership Team.
- Provide information which enables the safeguarding partners to perform their functions. For example, providing case or other information requested to inform local Child Safeguarding Practice Reviews, or, multi-agency thematic audits of practice.
- Ensure that their organisation works in accordance with agreed safeguarding procedures and protocols. All of these are published on the HIPS Procedures Website (further information below) and the IOWSCP website.
- Have robust safeguarding policies and procedures in place specifically relevant to their organisation and provide evidence of this when requested, normally through participation in the Section 11 Keeping Children Safe Self-Assessment, or the Safeguarding in Education Self-Assessment (Section 157 and 175 of the Education Act 2002).
- Participate, where requested in the full programme of scrutiny functions undertaken by the IOWSCP including the Section 11 / Section 157 / 175 self-assessments and associated visits, multi-agency thematic audits, and peer scrutiny visits.

Please be assured that you will be contacted directly with any request to participate in any element of the IOWSCP's work with full details of what is required. Not all relevant agencies will be required to participate in all elements of the IOWSCP's work at the same time. For example, only agencies who have had direct involvement with a child or family would be contacted to participate in an audit or child safeguarding practice review linked to that case. Similarly, agencies and education establishments will be asked to participate in peer scrutiny and site visits on a rolling programme. Further information on the peer scrutiny visits will follow when the programme is established.

We would also like to make you aware of IOWSCP's fully-funded safeguarding training and events programme. All events are accessible to all safeguarding partners and relevant agencies and your staff can attend for free. All events involve training with staff from a wide range of multi-agency IOWSCP partners and add an important element to any organisation's existing internal safeguarding training programme. More information on the training and events programme can be found here www.IOWSCP.org.uk/training.

All relevant agencies also have access to safeguarding information and locally developed resources for frontline staff including online toolkits via the IOWSCP website.

In addition to forming the new local partnership arrangements on the Isle of Wight, the statutory safeguarding partners have agreed to work in partnership with the statutory safeguarding partners for Hampshire, Portsmouth and Southampton, to ensure coherence in safeguarding arrangements across the wider geographical area. The arrangements for this collaboration are known locally as 'HIPS'. We are pleased to confirm that the LSCPs in the HIPS areas have launched a new HIPS Procedures website. This website provides staff from all relevant agencies with access to the full suite of local children's safeguarding policies, procedures and guidance that should be used to inform any individual agency policies.

The new website replaces the previous '4LSCB Procedures' website and all of its content so please make sure that you update any internal documents that may reference the old website or link to old policies.

Should you require any further information on the IOWSCP and its work please contact: Sophie Butt, Strategic Partnerships Manager on the details at the top of this letter.

Derek Benson: Independent Chair

Isle of Wight Safeguarding Children Partnership

Steve Crocker OBE: Director of Children's Services

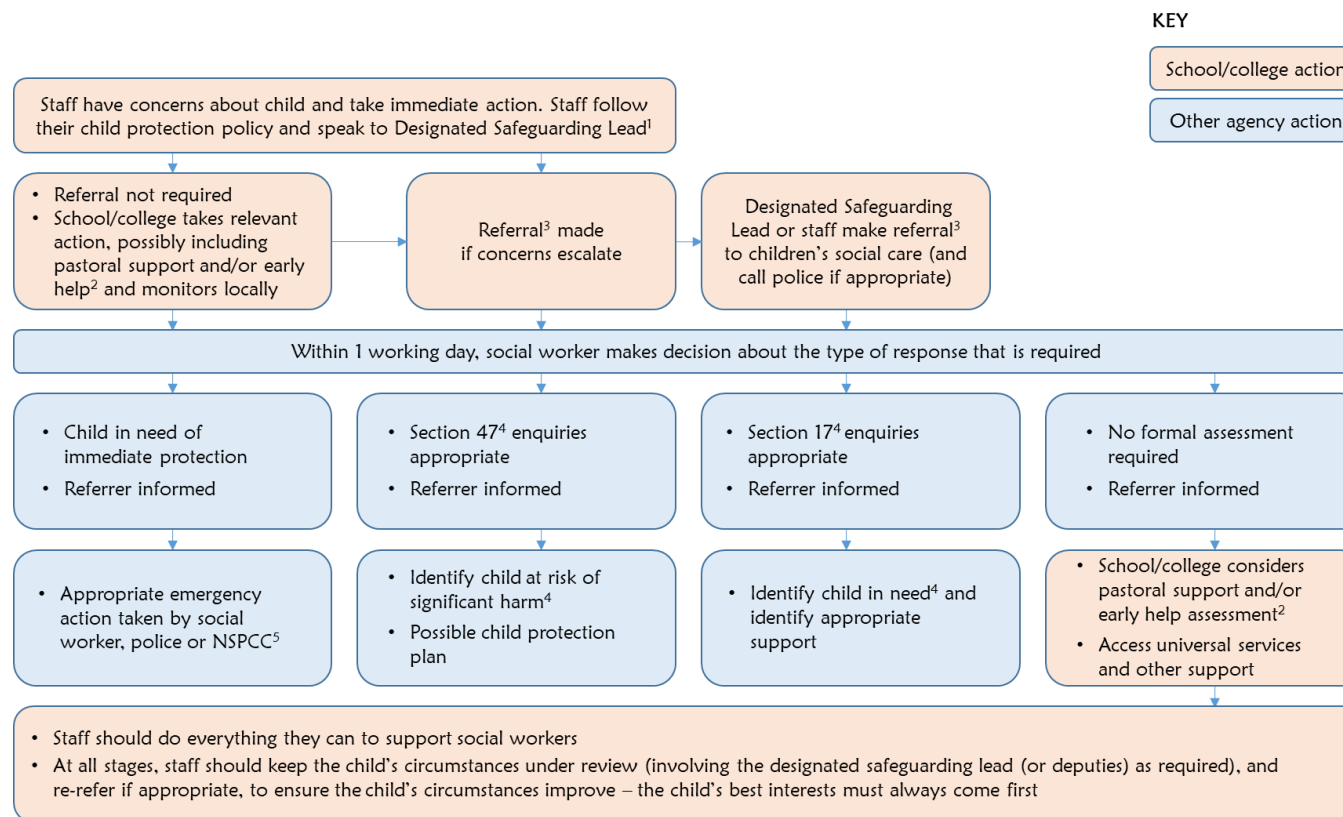
Isle of Wight County Council

Julia Barton: IOW Clinical Commissioning Group

Previous members: Rachel Farrell Executive Director of Quality and Nursing Chief Superintendent Hampshire and Isle of Wight Partnership of Hampshire Constabulary Clinical Commissioning Group

Appendix B

Actions where there are concerns about a child



- In cases which also involve a concern or an allegation of abuse against a staff member, see Part four of this guidance.
- Early help means providing support as soon as a problem emerges at any point in a child's life. Where a child would benefit from co-ordinated early help, an early help inter-agency assessment should be arranged. Chapter one of *Working Together to Safeguard Children* provides detailed guidance on the early help process.
- Referrals should follow the process set out in the local threshold document and local protocol for assessment. Chapter one of *Working Together to Safeguard Children*.
- Under the Children Act 1989, local authorities are required to provide services for children in need for the purposes of safeguarding and promoting their welfare. Children in need may be assessed under section 17 of the Children Act 1989. Under section 47 of the Children Act 1989, where a local authority has reasonable cause to suspect that a child is suffering or likely to suffer significant harm, it has a duty to make enquiries to decide whether to take action to safeguard or promote the child's welfare. Full details are in Chapter one of *Working Together to Safeguard Children*.
- This could include applying for an Emergency Protection Order (EPO).