

Quwwat-ul-Islam Girls' School



Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy

Published Date	September 2026
Review Date	July 2027
Policy Links	Behaviour Policy CCTV Policy Online safety Policy Safer Recruitment Policy

School Motto
Together we can achieve more
School Values
Respect . Aspiration . Responsibility
Learning Drivers
Caring for Ourselves, Our World, Our Education, Our Rights

School Vision Statement

To establish a school of excellence both Islamically and Academically - Provide a holistic education which is inspired by: Taqwa: God consciousness morals and values inspired by the prophet (saw) coupled with academic excellence. At Quwwat-ul-Islam girls' school we adhere to the following:

- Mutual respect and tolerance - We respect and care for everybody.
- Democracy– We promote the right of every individual to have their opinions and voices heard.
- The rule of the law – We understand that laws and rules protect us and at the same time provide us with responsibilities, by breaking them there are consequences.

School Designated Safeguarding Lead DSL	Mrs. Member
School Deputy Safeguarding Lead DDSL	Ms. Asma, Ms. Hussain, Ms. Mahfuza
School Designated Safeguarding Trustee	Mr. F Patel
School Designated Safeguarding Trustee	Mr. S Doodwalla
Chair of Trustees	Mr. F Patel

Quwwat ul Islam Girls' School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of all pupils in its care. As an employer, the school expects all staff, governors, volunteers and parents/carers to share this commitment.

This policy is available on our school website: <https://quwwatulislam.com> and also on request from the school office. School Safeguarding Email: safeguarding@quwwatulislam.com

Contents

- 1. Introduction
- 2. Statutory Framework
- 3. School Roles and Responsibilities
- 4. Types of Abuse and Specific Safeguarding Issues
 - 4.1 Child-on-Child Abuse
 - 4.2 Sexual Violence and Harassment
 - 4.3 Children with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND)
 - 4.4 Children with Medical Conditions
 - 4.5 Children Absent from Education, Missing Education and Homelessness
 - 4.6 Temporary Accommodation
 - 4.7 Children Educated in Alternative Provision
 - 4.8 Contextual Safeguarding and Exploitation
 - 4.9 Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) and Child Criminal Exploitation (CCE)
 - 4.10 Serious Violence
 - 4.11 Honour Based Abuse
 - 4.12 Female Genital Mutilation (FGM)
 - 4.13 Forced Marriage
 - 4.14 Prevention of Radicalisation
 - 4.15 Mental Health and Wellbeing
 - 4.16 Domestic Abuse
 - 4.17 Young Carers
 - 4.18 Children Who Are Questioning Their Gender
 - 4.19 Prejudice-Based Harm and Discriminatory Abuse
 - 4.20 Mobile Phones
 - 4.21 Artificial Intelligence and Emerging Technologies
- 5. School Procedures
- 6. Training and Professional Development
- 7. Professional Confidentiality
- 8. Record Keeping and Information Sharing
- 9. Inter-Agency Working
- 10. Allegations About Members of the Workforce
- 11. Whistleblowing

Appendices

- Appendix 1 Statutory Framework
- Appendix 2 Recording
- Appendix 3 Body Maps
- Appendix 4 Resources
- Appendix 5 Professional Curiosity
- Appendix 6 Disguised Compliance
- Appendix 7 Self-Assessment Matrix and Governors Questions
- Appendix 8 Safeguarding Culture Indicators
- Appendix 9 Key Safeguarding Contacts

1. Introduction

Safeguarding is not a stand alone policy area but underpins all aspects of school life. The school is committed to creating a culture where children feel safe, respected and listened to, where concerns are identified early and where safeguarding is everyone's responsibility.

All adults are expected to demonstrate curiosity, professional challenge and respectful relationships to promote the welfare of children.

Our school is committed to develop and sustain a strong safeguarding culture which supports us all to safeguard children and creates a positive and respectful learning environment in which everyone can flourish.

Safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children is everyone's responsibility. 'Children' includes everyone under the age of 18. Everyone who comes into contact with children and their families has a role to play. To fulfil this responsibility effectively, all practitioners should make sure their approach is child centred. This means that they should consider, always, what is in the best interests of the child.

School and college staff are particularly important, as they can identify concerns early, provide help for children, promote children's welfare and prevent concerns from escalating.

(Keeping Children Safe in Education – DfE, September 2026)

Staff are expected to exercise professional curiosity and respectfully explore concerns where a child's presentation, behaviour or circumstances suggest they may need help or protection.

Adults should not rely solely on initial explanations where concerns remain.

The school recognises that effective safeguarding requires an understanding of the child's lived experience.

Staff should consider the daily experiences, needs, relationships and wellbeing of the child and ensure that safeguarding decisions are informed by the child's voice, wishes, feelings and circumstances.

Safeguarding interventions should focus on improving outcomes for the child and reducing risk, rather than solely on parental engagement or professional processes.

This Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy is for all school and agency staff, parents, governors, volunteers and the wider school community. It forms part of the safeguarding arrangements for our school and should be read along with our policy for: *Safer Recruitment, Staff Code of Conduct, Behaviour, Attendance, Health and Safety, Online safety, Whistleblowing and Complaints procedures.*

This policy should be read in conjunction with Keeping Children Safe in Education, (DfE 2026) [Keeping children safe in education \(HMG 2026\)](#) ...and with reference to the Education Inspection Framework, Ofsted 2023 and further guidance from November 2025. [Education inspection framework for September 2023 \(HMG 2023\)](#)

All staff must read, and sign to say they have read:

- Part One of Keeping Children Safe in Education 2026 (Kessie), together with Annex B of KCSiE 2026
- DfE statutory guidance [Working together to safeguard children 2023 \(HMG 2023\)](#)
- 'What to do if you're worried a child is being abused: Advice for practitioners' (DfE March 2015).

Sensitivity to language: KCSiE uses 'victim' and 'perpetrator/alleged perpetrator' throughout, with a warning that such terms may not be helpful to use in front of or directly in addressing, children

*We use children's names when speaking to them and referring to them. We say, '**reporting child**' instead of '**victim**', because a child may not see themselves as a victim. We say, '**reported child**' when investigating incidents, rather than use labels like 'bully' or 'perpetrator'. These words and other terms are thoroughly investigated for their meaning and impact as part of the safeguarding curriculum in our school.*

Safeguarding is defined in Keeping Children Safe in Education 2026 as:

- Providing help and support to meet the needs of children as soon as problems emerge
- protecting children from maltreatment, whether that is within or outside the home, including online
- preventing the impairment of children's mental and 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

'**Children**' includes everyone under the age of 18.

2. Statutory framework and content/location of embedded safeguarding.

2.1 The Education Act 2002 Section 175, (*Section 157 for independent schools*) places a statutory responsibility on the governing body to have policies and procedures in place that safeguard and promote the welfare of children who are pupils of the school.

2.2 The development of appropriate procedures and the monitoring of good practice in the London Borough of Newham are the responsibilities of the Newham Safeguarding Children Partnership (NSCP).

2.3 Our school works in accordance with the statutory legislation and guidance contained in appendix 1

2.4 Our Trustee Committee will ensure that children are taught about how to keep themselves and others safe, including online.

Relevant topics will be included within Relationships Education (for all primary pupils), and Relationships and Sex Education (for all secondary pupils) and Health Education (for all primary and secondary pupils).

Preventative education is most effective in the context of our whole-school approach that prepares pupils and students for life in modern Britain and creates a culture of zero tolerance for racism, sexism, misogyny/misandry, homophobia, bi-phobic and sexual violence/harassment.

Our school has a clear set of values and standards, upheld and demonstrated throughout all aspects of school life. These are underpinned by our behaviour policy and pastoral support system, as well as by a planned programme of evidence-based RSHE delivered in regularly timetabled lessons and reinforced throughout the whole curriculum.

Our programme is inclusive and developed to be age and stage of development appropriate (especially for our children with SEND).

3. School roles and responsibilities

All adults working with or on behalf of children have a responsibility to protect them and to provide a safe environment that enables them to learn and achieve their full potential. However, there are identified key adults in schools and in the Local Authority who have specific responsibilities under child protection procedures. The names of those in our school with these specific responsibilities are shown on the front cover sheet of this policy. All staff in our school are familiar with the Newham Family Help Offer.

3.1 The Trustees

The Trustee Committee ensures that a strong Safeguarding culture is embedded within the school, that our commitment to keep our children safe is explicit and understood by all in the school community and that our practice reflects the Trustee Committee's vision and values.

The Trustee Committee ensures that all required policies relating to child protection and safeguarding (including Covid-19) are in place and that the child protection policy reflects statutory and local guidance. Safeguarding is a standing item on the agenda of all Trustee Committee meetings. The policy is reviewed at least annually.

The Trustee Committee ensures that the policies, procedures, practice and professional development and training in our school are effective and always comply with the statutory requirements. The Trustee Committee will ensure relevant staff have due regard to the relevant data protection principles, which allow them to share (and withhold) personal information as provided for in the Data Protection Act 2018 and the GDPR.

The Trustee Committee ensures that there is a named Designated Safeguarding Lead and Deputy Safeguarding Lead(s) in place, that they have their safeguarding role explicitly within their job descriptions and are appropriately trained for their role, as set out in Keeping Children Safe in

Education 2023. The link trustee for safeguarding visits the school regularly for meetings with the DSL and to observe safeguarding in school at first hand. The DSL reports directly to Trustee Committee on issues arising from their role which impact on the school.

The Trustee Committee checks that safeguarding is included in Behaviour, Online and all related policies including the staff Code of Conduct and is highlighted in all policies as the overarching responsibility of all staff at all times, particularly in procedures involving sanctions or searches, in school and out.

The Trustee Committee ensures that the school contributes fully to inter-agency working in line with statutory and local guidance and uses the appropriate referral pathways. It ensures that information is stored and shared appropriately and in accordance with the statutory requirements as set out in the Data Protection Act 2018 and in line with GDPR requirements.

The Trustee Committee ensures that all Governors, staff members and volunteers undergo appropriate safeguarding and child protection training that is regularly updated, at least annually, to provide them with the relevant skills and up to date knowledge to keep all our children safe.

The Trustee Committee ensures that all staff have the knowledge, skills and understanding of children who have an allocated social worker. It recognises their additional vulnerabilities with those of looked after and previously looked after children and monitors school action with all these children to keep them safe.

The Trustee Committee ensures that children are taught to keep themselves safe, including on-line, making sure that appropriate filters and monitoring systems are in place in school. This includes **all staff** being trained at induction in an understanding of the expectations, applicable roles and responsibilities in relation to filtering and monitoring. This responsibility extends to children who are accessing on-line learning from our school, at home. Our children will also be taught how to keep themselves safe through teaching and learning opportunities in RSHE and through whole-school practice led by staff as part of the provision of a rich and balanced curriculum.

The Trustee Committee and school leadership team are responsible for maintaining robust safer recruitment procedures that help to deter, reject or identify people who may abuse children. It adheres to statutory responsibilities to check adults working with children and has recruitment and selection procedures in place (see the school's 'Safer Recruitment' policy for further information). It also ensures that volunteers are appropriately supervised in school. KCSIE 2026. Checks must now be completed using GOV.UK services for prohibition, barred list, directions/restrictions, and Section 128.

We will conduct background checks through an online search as part of due diligence when shortlisting candidates; undertake a risk assessment and use our professional judgement when deciding whether to obtain an enhanced DBS certificate for any volunteer undertaking unregulated activity. (References to the TRA Employer Access Service and Secure Access portal are removed; checks must be completed using GOV.UK services for prohibition, barred list, directions/restrictions, and Section 128)

3.2 The Designated Safeguarding Lead (and Deputy)

The Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) in school takes the lead responsibility for managing child protection referrals, safeguarding training and raising awareness of all child protection policies and procedures in school. This includes a whole-school staff responsibility to support children affected by child-on-child abuse in all its forms, by following our protocol for listening, reassuring and reporting to allow the child to move on. The Designated Safeguarding lead (DSL) will ensure that everyone in school, including temporary staff, volunteers and contractors are aware of these procedures and that they are always followed.

The DSL has responsibility online safety which, amongst other things, includes an understanding of the expectations, applicable roles and responsibilities in relation to filtering and monitoring – see para 141 of the DfE Guidance for further information. Safeguarding risks now explicitly include misinformation, disinformation (fake news) and conspiracy theories, in line with KCSIE 2026. Use the DfE 'Plan technology for your school' tool to audit filtering and monitoring and follow DfE guidance on Generative AI: product safety expectations. Cybersecurity standards will be adopted to build resilience against cyber threats.

The Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) is a source of advice and support to other staff on all child protection matters and makes sure that timely referrals to Newham Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) are made in accordance with current London Child Protection Procedures. The Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) works with the local authority, the Channel programme and other agencies as required. If for any reason the Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) is unavailable, the Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead will act in their absence.

The Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) will also be alert to the additional vulnerabilities of children with a social worker, ensuring that staff know who those children are, understand their academic progress and attainment and maintain a culture of high aspirations for these children. The Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) will also support staff to identify the challenges that children in this group may face and any additional support and/or adjustments that can make to best support them.

The DSL will form a link with the Virtual School Head in the borough to communicate about children who are

LAC

CIN / CP

In Kinship Care

In addition, in most cases homelessness would be considered in the context of children living with their families, however the Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) will be alert that some children may be homeless independently and this will require a different level of intervention and support.

Safeguarding leaders will engage in appropriate supervision, reflective practice and professional challenge to support effective safeguarding decision-making and staff wellbeing.

3.2 DSL Cover Arrangements

The school maintains robust arrangements to ensure safeguarding responsibilities are fulfilled during any period when the Designated Safeguarding Lead is unavailable.

Our school safeguarding email is – safeguarding@quwwatulislam.com

3.3 The Headteacher

The Headteacher works in accordance with the requirements upon all school staff. In addition, the Headteacher ensures that all safeguarding policies and procedures adopted by the Trustee Committee are followed by all staff.

The Headteacher will ensure that children are taught about safeguarding themselves and their peers, including e.g. the emotional impact of on-line nude image sharing, sexist abuse, body shaming or the sexual targeting of children with SEN or protected characteristics, as part of the broad and balanced curriculum. This includes covering relevant issues through Relationships, Sex and Health Education (RSHE) and through other curricular opportunities.

The Headteacher ensures that all pupils, individually or collectively through our school council are encouraged to promote the responsible use of social media, practical safety around the school and responsibility for their own and others' wellbeing, as an explicit, valued and integral element of a strong school safeguarding culture.

The Headteacher ensures that there is immediate access to an individual member of staff, appropriately trained, to listen, reassure and provide practical support to move on, for children at need in the school.

The Headteacher will make sure that she is satisfied that any children on the school roll placed with an alternative education provider can meet the needs of the child and obtain written confirmation that the appropriate safeguarding checks have been carried out,

3.4 All school staff – safeguarding children's futures

Everyone at our school has a responsibility to provide a learning environment in which our children can feel safe to learn and to ensure that every child has access to learning, even if circumstances preclude their physical presence in the school.

Staff are prepared to identify children who may benefit from Family Help and understand their role and responsibilities within this process. This includes identifying any emerging problems so appropriate support may be provided and in liaison with the Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) report any concerns. All staff members are aware of and follow school processes as set out in this policy and are aware of how to use the portal to make a referral to the Newham MASH when there is a need to do so.

All staff should be aware that children may not feel ready or know how to tell someone that they are being abused, exploited, or neglected, and/or they may not recognise their experiences as harmful. For example, children may feel embarrassed, humiliated, or are being threatened. This could be due to their vulnerability, disability and/or sexual orientation or language barriers. This

should not prevent staff from having a professional curiosity and speaking to the designated safeguarding lead (DSL) if they have concerns about a child. It is also important that staff determine how best to build trusted relationships with children and young people which facilitate communication.

All staff should be able to reassure targeted children that they are being taken seriously and that they will be supported and kept safe. A child should never be given the impression that they are creating a problem by reporting abuse, sexual violence or sexual harassment. Nor should a child ever be made to feel ashamed for making a report.

We recognise that high self-esteem, confidence, supportive friends and good lines of communication with a trusted adult help to protect children. Our Safeguarding culture in school depends upon every member of staff being proactive in recognising opportunities to promote and support the development of these protective factors.

This includes the use of appropriate forms of online communication directly from staff to children. We use the functions through the platform for online learning – Google classroom. The use of social media (WhatsApp, Twitter, FB etc) for this purpose is inappropriate and would be regarded as a serious breach of professional boundaries.

All staff engage with and support children and school council in promoting responsible use of social media, safety around the school and responsibility for their own and others' wellbeing, as an integral element of a strong school safeguarding culture.

4. Types of abuse / specific safeguarding issues

All staff should be aware of the indicators of abuse, neglect and exploitation (see below), understanding that children can be at risk of harm inside and outside of the school/college, inside and outside of home, and online. Exercising professional curiosity and knowing what to look for is vital for the early identification of abuse and neglect so that staff can identify cases of children who may need help or protection.

All school and college staff should be aware that abuse, neglect, exploitation, and safeguarding issues are rarely standalone events and cannot be covered by one definition or one label alone. In most cases, multiple issues will overlap.

Keeping Children Safe in Education (DfE, 2026)

The four main types of abuse referred to in Keeping Children Safe in Education are:

- Physical
- Emotional
- Neglect
- Sexual

Our school is aware of the signs of abuse, neglect and exploitation so we can identify children who may need help or protection. Within those four main types of abuse there are several specific types of abuse to which we are aware and especially alert.

4.1 Child on Child abuse

The school recognises that child-on-child abuse is a safeguarding issue for both the reporting child and the reported child. Appropriate support will be provided to all children involved.

Our school may be the only stable, secure and safe place in the lives of children at risk of, or who have suffered harm. However, on occasions their behaviour may be challenging and defiant, or they may instead be withdrawn, or display abusive behaviours towards other children.

Child on child abuse can manifest itself in many ways. This may include bullying (including cyber bullying); on-line verbal abuse; gender-based abuse; verbal sexist abuse; unwanted, unthinking or coerced nude or semi-nude image sharing consensual or nonconsensual; or sexually harmful behaviour. We do not tolerate any bullying, abuse or harmful behaviour in school and will take swift action to intervene where this occurs. Child-on-child abuse may also include racism, faith-based abuse, misogyny, misandry and other forms of discriminatory behaviour whether online or offline

The school recognises that child-on-child abuse is preventable through appropriate education, early identification, intervention and support.

We use the curriculum and assemblies to help children understand, in an age-appropriate way, what abuse is and we encourage them to tell a trusted adult if someone is behaving in a way that makes them feel uncomfortable. Staff are proactive and vigilant in recognising when a child may need to tell an adult of their choice about what is happening to them, will acknowledge how they feel and support them through the next steps of reporting to MASH, if that is what it takes to keep them safe. Our school staff understand the different gender issues that can be prevalent when dealing with child-on-child abuse.

4.2 Sexual Violence and Harassment

Sexual violence and harassment can occur between children of any age individually or in groups. Children who are victims of sexual violence and sexual harassment will likely find the experience stressful and distressing, and likely will adversely affect their educational attainment. Our school takes all victims seriously and they will be offered the appropriate support.

Predatory behaviour or a dismissive attitude towards sexual harassment may be prevalent online or feature in the children's lived experience of home, friendship groups or society at large, but it is not indicative of respect for other pupils and therefore it is unacceptable at Quwwatul Islam Girls' School.

An example of such harassment is 'Upskirting', which typically involves taking a picture under a person's clothing without them knowing, with the intention of viewing their genitals or buttocks to obtain sexual gratification, or cause the victim humiliation, distress or alarm. Anyone of any gender can be a victim and it is a criminal offence under the Voyeurism (Offences) Act 2019.

Our school culture of safeguarding ensures that the message that abusive behaviours are unacceptable is explicit through our curriculum, school environment and staff modelling appropriate language and respectful relationships. We do not accept that it is 'just part of growing up' or a joke. Our school manages such incidences in the same way by considering the need to

undertake an immediate risk and needs assessment and as with any other child protection concern, we will follow the same procedures. Pupils initiating such abuse or sexualised behaviour will be subject to an AIM risk assessment or Brook Traffic Lights (for EY and KS1) which will inform a safety plan for everyone involved, including themselves. This is in line with NSCP and Newham safeguarding policy. There may be further steps in our response including referrals to MASH to access Health and other specialist interventions for the reported child.

4.3 Children with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND)

Our school understands that children with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) can face additional safeguarding challenges. Our school recognises that additional barriers can exist when recognising abuse and neglect in this group of children. These can include:

- Assumptions that indicators of possible abuse such as behaviour, mood and injury relate to the child's disability, without further exploration;
- Being more prone to peer group isolation than other children;
- Instances of child-on-child sexual abuse where the reported child/ren will always require safeguarding support and a significant subgroup of these children will have SEND;
- Children with SEND and /or protected characteristics are statistically more likely to be identified as targets for bullying or sexual abuse by their peers;
- Children with SEND may have difficulties distinguishing between fact and fiction online and may repeat online content or behaviours without understanding the consequences of doing so.
- Communication barriers that make telling an adult difficult;
- The requirement of personal or intimate care.

Our school takes into consideration these additional vulnerabilities and challenges and staff are proactive in safeguarding all our vulnerable children.

4.4 Children with Medical Conditions

The school recognises that children with medical conditions may face additional safeguarding vulnerabilities.

Staff will remain alert to concerns relating to medication, unmanaged health conditions, allergies, attendance issues linked to medical needs and any indicators that a child's medical needs are not being appropriately met.

Where concerns about a child's health needs are also safeguarding concerns, these will be managed in accordance with this safeguarding policy and appropriate referrals made where necessary.

The school will work in partnership with parents, carers and health professionals to support children with medical needs and ensure their welfare and safety.

4.5 Children absent from and missing from education (CME) or Children Missing Out of Education (CMO) and homelessness

Children being absent from education for prolonged periods, unexplainable and/or persistent absences from education can act as a vital warning sign to a range of safeguarding issues including neglect, child sexual and child criminal exploitation - particularly county lines. It is important the school or college's response to persistently absent pupils and children missing education supports identifying such abuse, and in the case of absent pupils, helps prevent the risk of them becoming a child missing education in the future. This includes when problems are first emerging but also where children are already known to Newham Children's Social Care and need a social worker, where being absent from education may increase known safeguarding risks within the family or in the community.

Further statutory guidance, information and support, includes:

[Working together to improve school attendance - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/working-together-to-improve-school-attendance)

[Children missing education - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/children-missing-education)

[Full-time enrolment of 14 to 16-year-olds in further education and sixth-form colleges - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/full-time-enrolment-of-14-to-16-year-olds-in-further-education-and-sixth-form-colleges)

[Missing Children and Adults strategy - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/missing-children-and-adults-strategy)

As part of our safeguarding role, we ask parents and carers to provide a minimum of two contact details, and we will regularly ask parents and carers to ensure that they are kept up to date.

All children, regardless of their age, ability, aptitude and any special education need they may have are entitled to a full-time education. Our school recognises that a child missing education is a potential indicator of abuse or neglect and will follow the school procedures for unauthorised absence and for children missing education. Parents should always inform us of the reason for any absence and must call the school office on the first day of absence by 8:30am. Where contact is not successfully made, a referral may be made to another appropriate agency (Newham Attendance Management Service (NAMS), Social Care or Police).

Our school will inform the local authority of any pupil who fails to attend school regularly or has been absent without school permission for a continuous period of 10 days or more in line with the requirements for Children Missing Education.

We will inform the local authority of any child who has moved schools and has been taken off roll. Where parents inform us of their intent to EHE, we will work with them, the LA and other key professionals (i.e. the EHE teacher) to coordinate a meeting, ideally, before a final decision has been made, to ensure the parents/carers have considered what is in the best interests of each child. This is particularly important where a child has special educational needs or a disability, and/or has a social worker, and/or is otherwise vulnerable. Where a child has an Education, Health and Care plan the LA has the capacity to veto an EHE arrangement.

Children who are absent and for who we are unable to contact for a maximum of three days will be visited at home for a welfare check.

4.6 Temporary accommodation

The school recognises that children living in temporary accommodation may face additional vulnerabilities affecting attendance, wellbeing, safeguarding and educational outcomes.

Where the school receives information regarding a child's placement in temporary accommodation, this will be considered within the wider context of the child's welfare and safeguarding needs.

The school will work with families and partner agencies to ensure appropriate support is provided and that any safeguarding concerns are addressed promptly.

4.7 Children Educated in an Alternative Provision

The school recognises that pupils educated in Alternative Provision (AP) may be at increased risk of harm, exploitation, poor educational outcomes and disengagement from education.

Where the school commissions or arranges an Alternative Provision placement, the school retains overall responsibility for the safeguarding and welfare of the child.

The school will:

- undertake appropriate due diligence before any placement is agreed
- obtain written confirmation that all required safeguarding and vetting checks have been carried out on staff working within the provision
- maintain accurate records of where pupils are educated during the school day, including any satellite or subcontracted provision
- ensure safeguarding information is shared appropriately between settings
- review placements regularly, and at least half-termly, to ensure they continue to meet the child's needs and remain safe and suitable
- maintain oversight of attendance, welfare, safeguarding and educational progress
- respond promptly to any safeguarding concerns arising within the placement

The school recognises that children in Alternative Provision often have complex and additional vulnerabilities and will ensure safeguarding support is proportionate to their needs.

4.8 Contextual safeguarding and Exploitation

All staff are aware that safeguarding incidents and/or behaviours can be associated with factors outside of the school and can occur between children outside of the school environment. The **Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL)** and all staff will consider whether children are at risk of abuse or exploitation in situations outside their families.

[Contextual Safeguarding](#) is an approach to understanding, and responding to, young people's experiences of significant harm and risk beyond their families. It recognises that the relationships that young people form in their neighbourhoods, schools and online can feature violence and abuse. Parents and carers may have little influence over these contexts, and young people's experiences of extra-familial abuse can undermine parent-child relationships.

Our school staff need to engage with individuals and groups who do have influence over/within extra-familial contexts, and we recognise that risk assessment of, and intervention with, such sources of influence on our students are a critical part of our safeguarding practices. Contextual Safeguarding, therefore, expands the objectives of our child protection systems in school in recognition of the fact that young people are vulnerable to abuse in a range of social contexts.

Contextual abuse takes different forms and children can be vulnerable to multiple harms including but not limited to sexual exploitation, criminal exploitation and serious youth violence. If, as a school, we are concerned a child is being exploited in an extra-familial context, as previously outlined, we will follow the procedures set out in this document and consult or refer to the MASH, from where they are likely to be referred to the LBNIIP (London Borough of Newham Intelligence and Information Partnership)

4.9 Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) and Child Criminal Exploitation (CCE) including County Lines

Both Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) and Child Criminal Exploitation (CCE) are forms of abuse and both occur where an individual or group takes advantage of an imbalance of power to coerce, manipulate or deceive a child into sexual or criminal activity. This can happen to children and young people from any background or community. This power imbalance can also be due to a range of factors including age, gender, sexual identity, cognitive ability, physical strength, status and access to economic or other resources.

In some cases, the abuse will be in exchange for something the child needs or wants and/or will be to the financial benefit or other advantage (such as increased status) of the perpetrator or facilitator. The abuse can be perpetrated by individuals, groups, males or females and children or adults. Abuse can be a one-off occurrence or a series of incidents over time and range from opportunistic to complex organised abuse. It can involve enforcement or enticement-based methods of compliance and may or may not be accompanied by violence or threats of violence. Children can be exploited even when the activity appears consensual.

Criminal exploitation of children is a geographically widespread form of harm that is a typical feature of County Lines criminal activity; drug networks or gangs grooming and exploiting children and young people to carry drugs, weapons and money for them. Key to identifying potential involvement may be 'missing episodes' when the child may have been trafficked for the purpose of transporting drugs, weapons or money. Our school will consider a referral using the Newham pathways or a direct referral using the National Referral Mechanism for human trafficking.

4.10 Serious Violence

There are several indicators, which may signal that a child is at risk from, or involved with serious violent crime. These may include increased absence from school, a change in friendships, or relationships with older individuals or groups, a significant decline in performance, signs of self-harm or a significant change of attitude or well-being or signs of assault or unexplained injuries. Unexplained gifts or new possessions could also indicate that a child has been approached by, or is involved with, individuals associated with criminal networks or gangs.

The school recognises serious violence as a significant safeguarding issue.

Staff will remain alert to indicators that a child may be at risk from, vulnerable to, or involved in serious violence. These may include:

- increased absence
- exclusion or suspension
- unexplained injuries
- changes in behaviour or friendship groups
- possession of weapons
- threats involving weapons
- criminal exploitation
- involvement in peer conflict or gang association

Where concerns are identified, the DSL will undertake an assessment of risk and consider appropriate interventions, safety planning and referrals.

The school recognises that children involved in violence may also be victims of harm and exploitation and will ensure appropriate safeguarding support is offered.

4.11 Honour Based Abuse

So-called honour-based abuse (HBA) encompasses abuse committed to protect or preserving “honour”. It often involves a wider network of family or community pressure and can involve multiple perpetrators. This includes Female Genital Mutilation (FGM), forced marriage and such practices such as breast ironing.

4.12 Female Genital Mutilation (FGM)

Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) comprises all procedures involving partial or total removal of the external female genitalia or other injury to female genital organs. It is illegal in the UK and is a form of child abuse.

We know that if a teacher in the course of their work discovers that an act of FGM appears to have been carried out on a girl under the age of 18, staff must and will report this to the police. The DSL will advise/support staff in this position and work with appropriate colleagues and agencies to support the girl and liaise with the family. The Newham Attendance Service has produced guidance on FGM for staff dealing with families who announce that they are going abroad which is available on Connect.

4.13 Forced marriage

A forced marriage is one that is entered into without the full consent of one or both parties. It is where violence, threats or other forms of coercion is used and is a crime. Our staff understand how to report concerns where this may be an issue. In addition, since February 2023 it has also been a crime to carry out any conduct whose purpose is to cause a child to marry before their eighteenth birthday, even if violence, threats or another form of coercion are not used. As with the existing forced marriage law, this applies to non-binding, unofficial 'marriages' as well as legal marriages.'

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/forced-marriage-resource-pack>

4.14 Prevention of radicalisation

Children can be vulnerable to extremist ideology and radicalisation. Protecting children from this risk is like protecting them from other forms of harm and abuse. The Counter-Terrorism and Security Act (HMG, 2015) Section 26 places a duty on schools in the exercise of their functions, to have "due regard to the need to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism". This duty is known as the PREVENT duty.

It requires schools to:

- teach a broad and balanced curriculum which promotes spiritual, moral, cultural, mental and physical development of pupils and prepares them for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of life and must promote community cohesion;
- be safe spaces in which children and young people can understand and discuss sensitive topics, including terrorism and the extremist ideas that are part of terrorist ideology, and learn how to challenge these ideas and;
- be mindful of their existing duties to forbid political indoctrination and secure a balanced presentation of political issues.

CHANNEL is a national programme which focuses on providing support at an early stage to people identified as vulnerable to radicalisation and being drawn into terrorism. All staff understand how to identify those who may benefit from this support and are aware of relevant agencies to contact in circumstances where an individual demonstrates indicators of concern, as well as how to make a referral using the Newham referral pathways. Referring a student to prevent

We use the National Crime Agency's CEOP Education Programme to inform and support work in school.

4.15 Mental Health and Wellbeing

Mental health problems can, in some cases, be an indicator that a child has suffered or is at risk of suffering abuse, neglect or exploitation.

All staff are aware that mental health can in some cases be an indicator that a child has or is suffering from or at risk of abuse. Staff can observe children day-to-day and identify those whose behaviour suggests they may be experiencing a mental health issue.

Where there are mental health concerns about a child that is also a safeguarding concern, immediate action will be taken following the school child protection policy.

Our school works to protect the emotional wellbeing and resilience of all pupils and staff, as well as provide specific support for those with additional needs. We understand that there are risk factors which increase a child's vulnerability and protective factors that can promote or strengthen resiliency. The more risk factors present in a child's life, the more protective factors or supportive interventions are required to promote further growth and resilience. It is recognised that some children in our school may be suffering from mental ill-health and are at risk of self-harm or suicide but may present in school as making good progress and achieving well. It is therefore vital that we work in partnership with parents and carers to support the mental health and well-being of our children. It is equally important that parents share any concerns about the well-being of their child with school, so that appropriate support and interventions can be identified and implemented in partnership.

Where there are concerns that a child may be self-harming, it will be taken seriously as this may indicate an increased risk of suicide either intentionally or by accident. Staff will remain alert to indicators of mental ill health including self-harm, eating disorders, suicidal ideation and suicide planning. Any concerns will be referred immediately through safeguarding procedures.

If a child discloses self-harm or found to be self-harming the Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) will take the time to establish any underlying concerns. The child will be supported to access services using the appropriate Newham referral pathways.

4.16 Domestic Abuse

'Indicators of Abuse and neglect' – additional text included 'including where they see, hear, or experience its effects' when referring to domestic violence. This has been updated in KCSiE to the definition in the Domestic Abuse Act 2021

The school recognises that Operation Encompass notifications constitute safeguarding information and will be recorded, monitored and acted upon in accordance with safeguarding procedures.

Domestic abuse is defined as *"any incident or pattern of controlling, coercive, threatening behaviour, violence or abuse between those aged 16 and over who are or have been intimate partners or family members regardless of gender or sexuality. The abuse can encompass, but is not limited to psychological; physical, sexual; financial and emotional, coercive or controlling behaviour"*

The Domestic Abuse Act 2021 introduces the first ever statutory definition of domestic abuse and recognises the impact of domestic abuse on children, as victims in their own right, if they see, hear or experience the effects of abuse.

All children can witness and be adversely affected by domestic abuse in the context of their home life where domestic abuse occurs between family members. Experiencing domestic abuse and/or violence can have a serious, long lasting emotional and psychological impact on children. In some cases, a child may blame themselves for the abuse or may have had to leave the family home as a result.

Young people can also experience domestic abuse within their own intimate relationships. This form of child-on-child abuse is sometimes referred to as 'teenage relationship abuse'. Depending

on the age of the young people, this may not be recognised in law under the statutory definition of 'domestic abuse' (if one or both parties are under 16).

Our school recognises that where there is Domestic Abuse in a family, the children/young people will always be affected; the longer the violence continues, the greater the risk of significant and enduring harm, which they may carry with them into their adult life and relationships. Domestic Abuse can also affect children in their personal relationships as well as in the context of home life.

Staff will follow the procedures outlined in this policy if concerns of Domestic Abuse arise. The school will vigilantly monitor the welfare of children living in domestic abuse households, offer support to them and contribute to any Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC) safety plan as required.

Operation Encompass operates in London Borough of Newham, and our school will use the information shared to ensure that our children are supported and kept safe.

4.17 Young Carers

The school recognises that children with caring responsibilities may face additional challenges affecting their attendance, emotional wellbeing, behaviour, progress and educational outcomes

Staff will remain alert to indicators that a child may have caring responsibilities and will ensure that appropriate support, referrals and reasonable adjustments are considered.

Where identified, the school will work collaboratively with families and partner agencies to ensure young carers receive timely support and assistance.

4.18 Children Who Are Questioning Their Gender

The school recognises that some children may question their gender and that such children may experience additional vulnerabilities including bullying, discrimination, social isolation and emotional distress.

The school will respond to requests for support on an individual basis, with safeguarding and the best interests of the child at the centre of decision-making.

The Designated Safeguarding Lead will be involved in assessing safeguarding implications and determining appropriate support arrangements.

Parents and carers will normally be involved in discussions and decisions regarding support for a child who is questioning their gender unless doing so would place the child at risk of significant harm.

The school will comply with safeguarding legislation, equality legislation, human rights legislation and current statutory guidance when determining support arrangements.

4.19 Prejudice-Based Harm and Discriminatory Abuse

The school recognises that prejudice-based harm, including racism, faith-based prejudice, misogyny, misandry and other forms of discriminatory behaviour, can adversely affect a child's welfare, wellbeing, mental health, attendance, attainment and sense of safety.

All staff understand that prejudice-based incidents may constitute safeguarding concerns and should be considered within safeguarding processes where appropriate.

Any concerns regarding discriminatory abuse will be reported to the Designated Safeguarding Lead and managed in accordance with safeguarding, behaviour and anti-bullying procedures.

The school promotes an inclusive culture where all forms of prejudice are challenged and addressed in a timely and proportionate manner.

4.20 Mobile phones

The school recognises the Department for Education expectation that schools should be mobile-phone-free environments by default.

The use of mobile phones by pupils will be managed in accordance with the school's behaviour, online safety and acceptable use policies.

Where exceptions are required, these will be risk-assessed and managed appropriately.

4.21 Artificial Intelligence and Emerging Technologies

The school recognises the rapidly evolving nature of online harms and emerging technologies. Staff will remain alert to risks associated with generative artificial intelligence, including:

- AI-generated nude and semi-nude imagery
- Deepfakes and manipulated images
- Misinformation and disinformation
- Online grooming facilitated through AI applications
- Financially motivated sexual extortion (FMSE)
- Online fraud, scams and phishing
- Online gambling and financial exploitation
- Use of children's photos on school websites which can be manipulated by bad actors

Any concerns will be treated as safeguarding concerns and managed in accordance with school safeguarding procedures.

5. Procedures

5.1 All staff members have a duty to identify and respond to suspected and actual abuse or disclosures of harm. Any member of staff, volunteer or visitor to our school who receives a disclosure or allegation of abuse, or suspects that abuse may have occurred **must** report it immediately to the Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) or, in their absence, the Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead. Concerns about a child at risk of radicalisation or extremism will be raised with the PREVENT and Designated Safeguarding Leads.

5.2 All action is taken in accordance with the following guidance;

- Newham Safeguarding Children Partnership guidelines – Pan-London Child Protection Procedures
- Keeping Children Safe in Education (DfE, 2026)
- Working Together to Safeguard Children (DfE, 2026)
- PREVENT Duty - Counterterrorism and Security Act (HMG, 2015)

5.3 Where a child is suffering or is likely to suffer from harm, a child will be referred to the Newham Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub through the Newham MASH Portal, immediately. Time-sensitive referrals may be telephoned first in case the child needs to be kept in school, pending a Section 47 Strategy meeting when a social worker will come to the school. Less urgent concerns or requests for support will also be referred via the Newham MASH Portal for consideration of Family Help support as appropriate. We will call police to the school directly if the risk is assessed as acute and immediate.

5.4 Practice when Police are called to the school.

Before calling police to the school, the DSL and senior staff will reflect upon the proportionality of this response, being aware of the child's rights under the Equalities Act and Human Rights Act and if necessary, identifying and addressing concerns such as adultification if it is suspected of being present in staff decision making processes thus far.

Best practice for staff considering police intervention to be necessary:

- To consult the DSL and Head Teacher about the reason to involve the police.
- A child will not be searched on site by the police.
- A child will not be taken offsite to a police station without an appropriate adult (i.e. DSL) being present if their parent cannot accompany them.

If a child is interviewed on site by police, the DSL will act in loco parentis at that interview to provide support to the child. Parents/carers will be informed directly that the police have been called to the school in connection with their child, *subject to the safeguarding guidelines below*. A suitably trained Appropriate Adult must be present if the child is subsequently arrested and/or taken to a police station and the DSL will ensure that arrangements for such support are in place before the child leaves the school premises, with the reason for the arrest and the name of the appropriate adult concerned, confirmed. [Appropriate Adult | Youth Justice Legal Centre \(yjlc.uk\)](https://www.yjlc.uk/); [Appropriate Adult Guidance \(publishing.service.gov.uk\)](https://publishing.service.gov.uk) (*role and responsibilities of an Appropriate Adult*).

No child /student may be subject to a search by police on school premises. Any such search should be carried out at the police station with an Appropriate Adult in attendance to the search.

Wherever possible, the school will share any safeguarding concerns, or an intention to refer a child to the MASH with parents or carers. However, we will not do so where it is felt that to do so could place the child at greater risk of harm or impede a criminal investigation. On occasions, it may be necessary to seek advice from the MASH or the Police in making decisions about when it is appropriate to share information with parents or carers.

5.5 Positive Handling, Reasonable Force and Restrictive Interventions

The school recognises that, in limited circumstances, staff may use reasonable force or restrictive interventions in accordance with statutory guidance to prevent injury, serious damage to property, disorder or harm.

Any use of reasonable force or restrictive intervention will be proportionate, necessary, reasonable, recorded and reviewed.

Particular consideration will be given to children with SEND, medical conditions and mental health needs. Individual behaviour support plans may be used to reduce the need for restrictive interventions wherever possible.

The school's Positive Handling and/or Restrictive Intervention Policy should be read alongside this safeguarding policy.

The school does not use seclusion as a safeguarding strategy. Where pupils require access to quiet or safe spaces, these arrangements will be proportionate, monitored, time-limited and managed in accordance with the school's behaviour, SEND and safeguarding procedures.

5.5 If a member of staff continues to have concerns about a child and feels the situation is not being addressed or does not appear to be improving, the staff member concerned should press for re-consideration of the case with the Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) who will escalate the concern as appropriate.

If, for any reason, the Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) or Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead is not available, this should not delay appropriate action being taken. Safeguarding contact details are displayed in the school to ensure that all staff members have unfettered access to safeguarding support, should it be required. Any individual may refer to the Newham MASH where there is suspected or actual risk of harm to a child. All staff should be aware of how to access the portal.

If a child resides outside Newham the DSL will be aware of the need to refer to the MASH in their LA. If unsure, always refer to the Newham MASH who will forward to appropriate areas.

Family Help:

All staff should be alert to the potential need for Family Help for a child who:

Any child may benefit from Family Help, but all school and college staff should be particularly alert to the potential need for Family Help for a child who:

- has a disability or has certain health conditions and has specific additional needs
- has special educational needs (whether they have a statutory Education, Health and Care plan or not)
- has a mental health need
- is a young carer
- is showing signs of being drawn in to anti-social or criminal behaviour, including gang involvement and association with organised crime groups or county lines
- goes missing from education, home or care,
- has experienced multiple suspensions, is at risk of being permanently excluded from schools, colleges and in Alternative Provision or a Pupil Referral Unit.

- is at risk of modern slavery, trafficking, sexual and/or criminal exploitation
- is at risk of being radicalised or exploited
- has a parent or carer in custody, or is affected by parental offending
- is in a family circumstance presenting challenges for the child, such as drug and alcohol misuse adult mental health issues and domestic abuse
- is misusing alcohol and other drugs themselves
- is at risk of so-called 'honour'-based abuse such as Female Genital Mutilation or Forced Marriage
- is a privately fostered child

The expectation is for school staff to use a range of universal services in conjunction with the DSL to provide as much support as possible to prevent threshold for children's social care from being met. As a school we understand that prevention and early support are key to preventing escalation and protecting the wellbeing of children.

Newham Family Help Strategy – (see appendix)

6. Training

When new staff, trainee teachers, agency staff, volunteers or regular visitors join our school they are informed of the safeguarding arrangements in place, the name of the Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) and Deputy and how to share concerns with them.

The Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) and Deputy undertake child protection training appropriate to the role at every two years as a minimum. The Headteacher, all staff members and governors receive appropriate child protection training that is updated yearly and through continuing updates via meetings and notifications. In addition, all staff members receive safeguarding and child protection updates as required, but at least annually, to provide them with relevant skills and knowledge to safeguard children effectively. Records of any child protection training undertaken is kept for all staff and governors.

The school ensures that the Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) and Deputy also undertakes training in inter-agency working and other matters as appropriate.

All agency staff must complete the school safeguarding induction programme before starting work in the school, which prioritises safeguarding practice and appropriate language to be used in school

Certificates for Positive Handling training and the date of the last refresher are part of the recruitment process.

All staff should have and be updated regularly via meetings/emails/

6.1 Positive Handling and de-escalation practice keeps children and staff safe in school. This is refreshed every 3 years and is undertaken by all staff in a rolling programme which builds a collegiate responsibility for everyone's safety and wellbeing.

6.2 Prevent training annually

6.3 Specific safeguarding issues – Child on Child abuse / FGM etc.

6.4 Online Safety

7. Professional confidentiality

A member of staff must never guarantee confidentiality to anyone about a safeguarding concern (including parents / carers or children) or promise to keep a secret. In accordance with statutory requirements, where there is a child protection concern, this must be reported to the Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) or Deputy and may require further referral and subsequent investigation by appropriate authorities.

Information on individual child protection cases may be shared by the Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) or Deputy with other relevant staff members. This will be on a 'need to know' basis only and where it is in the child's best interests to do so.

8. Records and information sharing

Data protection is not a barrier to sharing safeguarding information. Where there are concerns about the safety of a child, the sharing of information in a timely and effective manner between organisations can reduce the risk of harm. The school will comply with data protection law, including the Data Protection Act 2018, UK GDPR and the Data (Use and Access) Act 2025. Our school is confident of the processing conditions that allow us to store and share information for safeguarding purposes. This allows us to share information without consent, if it is not possible to gain consent or if to gain consent would place a child at risk.

Well-kept records are essential to good child protection practice. Our school is clear about the need to record any concern held about a child or children within our school, the status of such records and when these records should be shared with other agencies.

Any member of staff receiving a disclosure of abuse or noticing signs or indicators of abuse, will record it as soon as possible via the safeguarding concern google form: https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1mZo9QnL6qHv-j8_gF3wx1DBNvwi43R_SLivYyQMhReQ/edit noting what was said or seen, using a body map to record if appropriate, (see Appendix) with the date, time and location. All records will be dated and signed, with the name printed and will include the action taken and the rationale for said action. This is then presented to the Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) or Deputy, who will decide on the appropriate action and record it accordingly. All concerns, discussions, decisions and reasons for decisions should be recorded (written or electronic) KCSiE (2026)

Any records related to child protection are kept in an individual child protection file for that child, separate to the pupil file. All child protection records are stored securely and confidentially and will be retained for 25 years after the child's date of birth, or until they transfer to another school or educational setting. We acknowledge the guidance for transferring records as below.

Where a child transfers from our school to another school or educational setting including colleges, their child protection records will be forwarded to the new educational setting with notice given to the receiving DSL.

These will be marked 'Confidential' and for the attention of the receiving school's Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) who will need to provide a receipt, which is recommended to be an email. If paper files are sent, they will be securely sealed and sent, under arrangements for immediate return if delivery to the receiving school's DSL/Head Teacher is not possible. A receipt is expected.

Lack of information about their circumstances can impact on the child's safety, welfare and educational outcomes. In addition to the child protection file, the DSL should also consider if it would be appropriate to share any additional information with the new school or college in advance of a child leaving to help them put in place the right support to safeguard this child and to help the child thrive in the school or college. For example, information that would allow the new school or college to continue supporting children who have had a social worker and been victims of abuse and have that support in place for when the child arrives.

The school recognises that timely and appropriate information sharing is essential to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children. Information will be shared proportionately, securely and in accordance with data protection legislation.

Staff should be confident that data protection legislation does not prevent the sharing of information where this is necessary to safeguard children and promote their welfare.

Fears about sharing information must never prevent appropriate safeguarding action from being taken.

Where safeguarding records are transferred, the Designated Safeguarding Lead will ensure that a summary of current safeguarding concerns, risks, support needs and protective factors accompanies the child protection file where appropriate.

Transferring settings do not need to keep copies of child protection files, but if they do, they must be kept in accordance with data retention (and for the shortest practical time).

In CP cases where there may be ongoing involvement from transferring settings, for example if any siblings still attend your setting, DSLs may wish to take copies of chronologies. Electronic systems may have an option to link this information.

If a child who is subject of a child protection plan leaves your setting and you are unaware of the name of the child's new education placement, you should contact the child's key worker from Family Help or Children's Social Care to discuss how records should be transferred.

(Newham LA Safeguarding)

Where a child joins our school, we will request all child protection records from the previous educational setting. If none are received within the statutory time, we will renew the request and report this to the Newham Education Safeguarding Officer.

9. Inter-agency working

Our school will be pro-active and prioritise inter-agency working to contribute to safeguarding children. It is the responsibility of the Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) to ensure that the school is represented at, and a report is submitted to any child protection conference or core group meeting for children on the school roll or previously known to them. Where possible and appropriate, any report will be shared in advance with the parent(s) and/or carer(s). Whoever represents the school will be fully briefed on any issues or concerns the school has and will be prepared to contribute to the discussions and planning at the meeting(s).

If a child is subject to a child protection or a child in need plan, the Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) will ensure the child is monitored regarding their school attendance, mental health and emotional well-being, academic progress, welfare and presentation. The Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) will ensure the school prioritises attendance at core group meetings and provide appropriate information to contribute to the plan at these meetings. Any concerns about the child protection plan and/or the child's welfare will be discussed and recorded at the core group meeting, unless waiting for the next meeting would place the child at further risk of significant harm. In this case the Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) will inform the child's key worker immediately and then record that they have done so and the actions agreed.

When we become aware that a child who is being, or is going to be, privately fostered our school has a duty under Section 10 of the Children Act 2004 to inform the Local Authority to ensure the appropriate safeguards are in place. The Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) will make an appropriate referral using the Newham referral pathway.

10. Allegations about members of the workforce (Staff, trainee teachers, volunteers, contractors and supply staff)

The aim of our school is to provide a safe and supportive environment that secures the well-being and best learning outcomes for children. All staff members are made aware of the boundaries of appropriate behaviour and conduct. These matters form part of staff induction and are outlined in the Staff Code of Conduct Handbook. We do, however recognise that sometimes allegations of abuse are made and when they occur, they are distressing and difficult for all. We also understand that some allegations are genuine and that there are adults who deliberately seek to harm or abuse children. Our school takes all possible steps to safeguard our children and ensure that the adults in our school are safe to work with children.

When new staff, agency staff, volunteers or regular visitors join our school they are informed of the safeguarding arrangements in place, the name of the Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) and Deputy and how to share concerns with them.

Supply staff, whilst not employed by the school are under the supervision, direction and control of the governing body when working in the school. If we receive an allegation about an individual that is not directly employed by the school for example, supply teachers we will discuss with the employer/agency/ LADO whether it is appropriate to suspend the supply teacher or to redeploy them to another part of the school, whilst the school carries out an investigation. We will usually take the lead in collecting the facts from children, staff including the supply member of staff and work in partnership with the employer and LADO to manage the process.

Volunteers

The school will assess all volunteer roles in accordance with current safeguarding and safer recruitment requirements. Volunteers whose role involves teaching, training, instructing, caring for or supervising children on more than three days within a thirty-day period, or overnight, will be undertaking regulated activity and will be subject to an enhanced DBS check with children's barred list information.

Volunteers who are not engaged in regulated activity will be subject to appropriate risk assessment and supervision arrangements as determined by the school.

We will always ensure that the procedures outlined in Chapter 7 of the London Child Protection Procedures are adhered to and will seek appropriate advice from the Local Authority Designated Officer (LADO) by telephone 0203 373803 or email lado@newham.gov.uk

If an allegation is made or information is received about any member of staff or volunteer who works with children has:

- behaved in a way that has harmed a child, or may have harmed a child;
- possibly committed a criminal offence against or related to a child;
- behaved towards a child or children in a way that indicates they may pose a risk of harm to children; or
- behaved in a way that indicates they may not be suitable to work with children;

The member of staff receiving the information should inform the Headteacher immediately. This includes concerns relating to agency and supply staff. Should an allegation be made against the Headteacher, this will be reported to the Chair of Trustees. In the event the Chair of Trustees is not contactable the same day, the information must be passed to the Vice Chair. The Headteacher or Chair of Trustees will seek advice from the LADO within one working day. No member of staff will undertake further investigations before seeking advice from the LADO.

All concerns will be shared initially with the LADO, to determine whether a safeguarding concern or an allegation about another member of staff (including supply staff, volunteers or contractors) meets or does not meet the harm threshold. In the latter case the concern will be shared in accordance with our low-level concerns policy.

Low Level Concerns

For the purposes of this policy (KCSIE 2026), a low-level concern is any behaviour by a staff member that does not meet the harm threshold and does not warrant referral to the LADO but may nevertheless cause a sense of unease or be inconsistent with the staff code of conduct. Examples include overly personal comments, excessive one-to-one communication, or boundary-blurring behaviour. The school will consult with the LADO to determine whether concerns meet the allegation threshold or should be managed as low-level concerns.

Reporting: All staff must share low-level concerns with the Headteacher (or DSL if delegated). Concerns about the Headteacher should be reported to the Chair of Trustees.

Recording and review: Low-level concerns are recorded in a central log overseen by the Headteacher/DSL. Patterns will be reviewed; repeated or escalating concerns may meet the harm threshold and be treated as an allegation.

Escalation: Where the harm threshold is met, the school will follow the 'Managing allegations against staff' procedure and consult the LADO without delay.

Further details can be found in our Recruitment Policy and in Part four of [Keeping children safe in education - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/keeping-children-safe-in-education).

The concern, which is raised, might not meeting the LADO Threshold and could be passed on to the Education Safeguarding Team for consideration and support (education.safeguarding@newham.gov.uk).

Any member of staff or volunteer who does not feel confident to raise concerns within the school should contact the LADO directly. Please refer to section 11 of this policy.

The school has a legal duty to refer to the Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) anyone who has harmed, or poses a risk of harm, to a child, or if there is reason to believe the member of staff has committed one of a number of listed offences, and who has been removed from working (paid or unpaid) in regulated activity or would have been removed had they not left. The DBS will consider whether to bar the person from regulated activity. If these circumstances arise in relation to a member of staff at our school, a referral will be made as soon as possible after the resignation or removal of the individual in accordance with advice from the LADO and/or the HR department.

11. Whistleblowing

Whistleblowing is defined as '*making a disclosure in the public interest*' and occurs when a worker (or member of the wider school community) raises a concern about danger or illegality that affects others, for example pupils in the school or members of the public.

All staff members are made aware of the duty to raise concerns about the attitude or actions of staff in line with the school's Code of Conduct and Whistleblowing policy.

We want everyone to feel able to report any child protection or safeguarding concerns. More information is available called Advice for Whistleblowing in Maintained Schools (DfE 2014). However, for members of staff who feel unable to raise these concerns internally, they can contact the NSPCC whistleblowing helpline on 0800 028 0285 or email: help@nspcc.org.uk Parents or others in the wider school community with concerns can contact the NSPCC general helpline on 0808 800 5000 (24-hour helpline) or email: help@nspcc.org.uk If an allegation is determined to be unsubstantiated, unfounded, false or malicious, the LADO and the case manager should consider whether the child and/or the person who has made the allegation is in need of help or may have been abused by someone else and this is a cry for help. In such circumstances, a referral to local authority children's social care may be appropriate.

Our Recruitment policy refers to outcomes to protect staff when allegations against them have been found to be false or unfounded (KCSIE 2026).

Appendix 1 - Statutory framework and content/location of embedded safeguarding

Policy / Legislation	Hyperlink
Keeping Children Safe in Education (HMG, 2026)	https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/keeping-children-safe-in-education--2
Education Inspection Framework (September 2023)	https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/education-inspection-framework
London Child Protection Procedures	http://www.londoncp.co.uk/
Regulated Activity in Relation to Children (2012)	https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/dbs-regulated-activity-in-relation-to-children--2
Working Together to Improve School Attendance (2024)	https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/working-together-to-improve-school-attendance
Working Together to Safeguard Children (HMG, 2026)	https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/working-together-to-safeguard-children--2
Education Act 2002	https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2002/32/contents
Domestic Abuse Act 2021	https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2021/17/contents/enacted
Modern Slavery Act 2015	https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2015/30/contents/enacted
What to Do If You're Worried a Child Is Being Abused (HMG, 2015)	https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/what-to-do-if-youre-worried-a-child-is-being-abused
Counter-Terrorism and Security Act (HMG, 2015)	https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2015/6/contents/enacted
The Prevent Duty – Departmental Advice for Schools and Childcare Providers (DfE, 2015)	https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/prevent-duty-guidance
Prevent Duty Guidance for Further Education Institutions (HMG, 2024)	https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/prevent-duty-guidance
Serious Crime Act 2015	https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2015/9/contents/enacted
Sexual Offences Act 2003	https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2003/42/contents
Voyeurism (Offences) Act 2019	https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2019/2/contents/enacted
Information Sharing Advice for Practitioners (DfE, July 2018)	https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/safeguarding-practitioners-information-sharing-advice
Data (Use and Access) Act 2025	Data (Use and Access) Act 2025
Education (Pupil Registration) Regulations 2006	https://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2006/1751/contents/made
General Data Protection Regulation (UK GDPR, 2018)	https://www.gov.uk/data-protection
Searching, Screening and Confiscation (DfE, 2018)	https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/searching-screening-and-confiscation
Use of Force – DfE Guidance	https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/use-of-reasonable-force-in-schools
Children Act 1989	https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/1989/41/contents
Children Act 2004	https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2004/31/contents

Children and Social Work Act 2017	https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2017/16/contents/enacted
Homelessness Reduction Act 2017	https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2017/13/contents/enacted
Preventing and Tackling Bullying (DfE, 2017)	https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/preventing-and-tackling-bullying
Female Genital Mutilation Act 2003. (Also, S4. Serious Crime Act)	https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2003/31/contents
Advice on Whistleblowing in Maintained Schools (DfE, 2014)	https://www.gov.uk/guidance/whistleblowing-procedure-for-maintained-schools
COVID-19 Rules in Schools (July 2023)	https://educationhub.blog.gov.uk/2023/07/06/what-are-the-latest-rules-around-covid-19-in-schools-colleges-nurseries-and-other-education-settings/

Appendix 2**Recording Safeguarding Concerns** Add School Name and logo

Full Name of Child	Date of Birth	Tutor Group/Class

Nature of worry, concern or disclosure	
Please include where you were when the child made a disclosure, what you saw, who else was there and what the child said or did and what you said.	
Time and date of incident:	
Was there an injury? Yes/ No	Did you see it Yes / No
Describe the injury	
Have you filled in the body plan to show where the injury is and its approximate size? Yes /No	
Was anyone else with you? If 'Yes' who?	
Has this happened before? Is 'Yes' did you report the previous incident?	
Who are you passing this information to?	
Name:	
Position:	
Your signature:	
Printed Name:	
Role in School:	

Time form completed:

Recording Safeguarding Concerns Add School Name and logo

Time form received by Designated Safeguarding Lead:

Action taken by Designated Safeguarding Lead:

Rationale for actions taken

Referred to:

Date:

Time:

Have Parents been informed? Yes / No (If No, state reason)

Feedback given to:

☐

Pastoral team

☐

Family Help
Lead

☐

Child

☐

Person who recorded disclosure

Further Action Agreed:

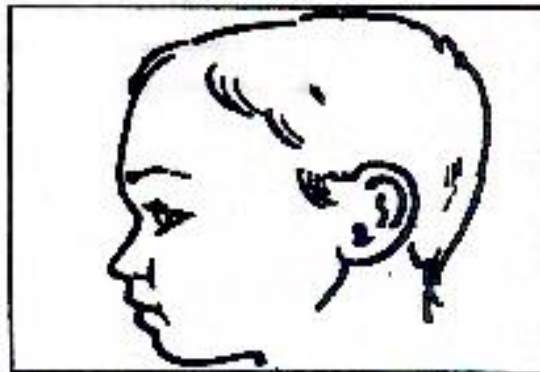
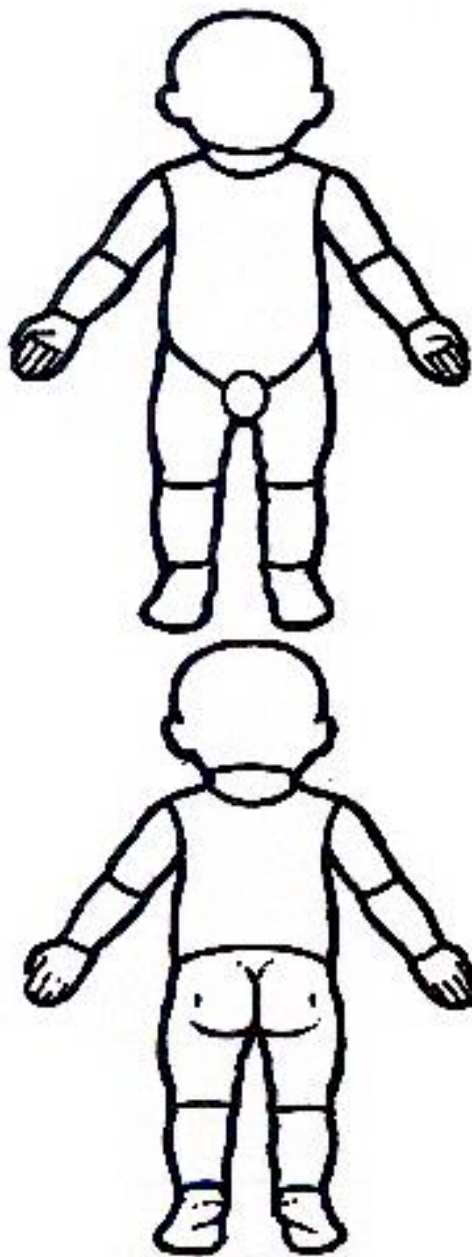
DSL Signature:

Printed Name:

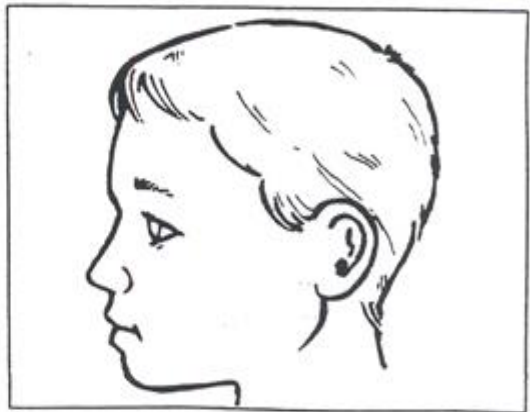
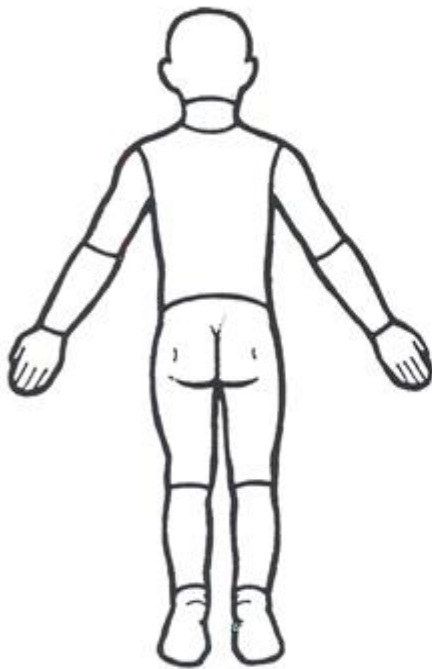
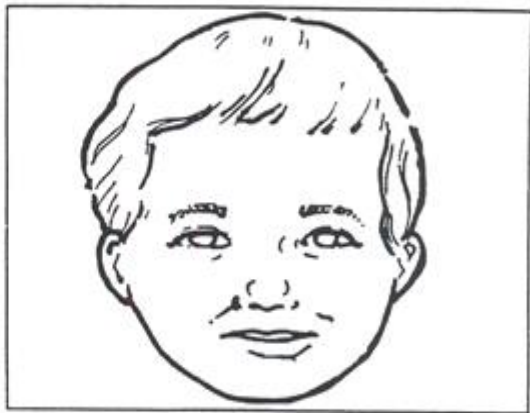
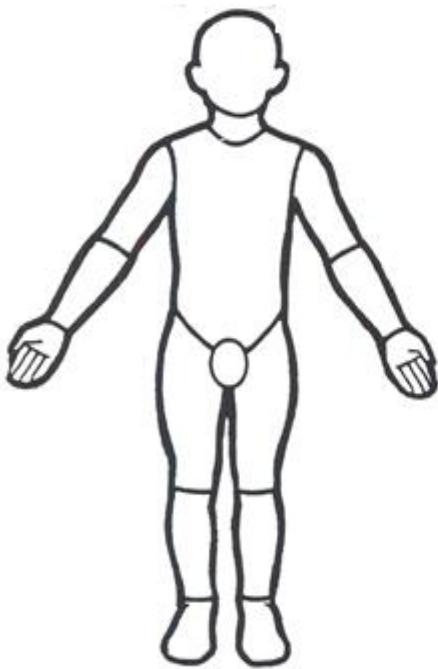
Date

Appendix 3 –Body Plans

Young Child



Older Child



Appendix 4 – Professional Curiosity

What is Professional Curiosity?

Professional curiosity is the capacity and responsibility to explore and understand what is happening within a child's life rather than accepting information at face value.

It involves respectfully questioning, observing, checking, verifying and seeking clarification when concerns arise about a child's welfare, safety or wellbeing. Professional curiosity helps staff identify children who may be at risk of abuse, neglect, exploitation or other safeguarding concerns at the earliest opportunity.

Why is Professional Curiosity Important?

Safeguarding concerns are not always obvious, and children may be unable, unwilling or not ready to disclose what is happening to them.

Maintaining professional curiosity enables staff to:

- identify emerging concerns early
- recognise patterns of behaviour or presentation
- understand the lived experience of the child
- challenge assumptions respectfully
- prevent concerns from escalating
- ensure children receive the right help at the right time

Professional curiosity supports effective safeguarding practice and contributes to a strong safeguarding culture throughout the school.

Professional Curiosity in Practice

Professional curiosity may include

- noticing unexplained changes in behaviour, presentation or attendance
- seeking clarification where explanations appear inconsistent
- respectfully exploring concerns with children, parents or carers
- checking information with other professionals
- considering the wider context of a child's experiences
- asking appropriate questions rather than making assumptions
- following up concerns which remain unresolved
- remaining alert to signs of abuse, neglect, exploitation or harmful behaviours

Examples of When Professional Curiosity May Be Required

Staff should consider using professional curiosity where

- a child frequently arrives at school hungry, tired or unprepared
- attendance deteriorates without clear explanation
- a child presents with unexplained injuries
- explanations provided by adults or children are inconsistent
- concerns are reported repeatedly by different members of staff
- a child appears fearful, withdrawn or anxious
- information from different agencies conflicts
- there are concerns regarding exploitation, county lines, radicalisation or online harms
- there is evidence of disguised compliance by parents or carers
- a child's presentation appears inconsistent with information provided by adults

Questions Staff May Ask Themselves

When concerns arise, staff should consider

- What is the child's lived experience?
- What am I worried about?
- What am I seeing, hearing or noticing?
- What is the evidence for my concerns?
- What information may be missing?
- Have I checked my assumptions?
- Do I need further clarification?
- Have I shared my concerns with the Designated Safeguarding Lead?

Recording and Reporting

Professional curiosity should always be supported by:

- timely recording of concerns
- clear factual observations
- discussion with the Designated Safeguarding Lead
- information sharing where appropriate
- ongoing review of concerns

Staff should never ignore concerns because they appear minor or because someone else may be dealing with them. If concerned, staff should always speak to the Designated Safeguarding Lead or Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead.

Our Commitment

The school promotes a culture in which professional curiosity is encouraged, valued and supported. Staff are expected to remain professionally curious, exercise professional judgement and always maintain a child-centred approach to safeguard and promote the welfare of children.

Appendix 5 – Recognising and Responding to Disguised Compliance

Our Commitment

The school recognises that effective safeguarding requires professional curiosity, respectful challenge and a continued focus on the lived experiences of children.

All staff are expected to remain alert to the possibility of disguised compliance and to raise concerns whenever they believe that progress for a child is not genuine, sustained or sufficient.

What is Disguised Compliance?

Disguised compliance occurs when a parent, carer or family appears to engage positively with professionals and services but does not make meaningful, sustained or sufficient changes to improve outcomes for the child.

Professionals may be reassured by parental cooperation, attendance at meetings, or verbal agreement to actions, while the child's circumstances remain unchanged or continue to deteriorate.

Safeguarding practice should focus on the lived experience, safety and outcomes of the child rather than the apparent level of adult engagement.

Why is Disguised Compliance Important?

Disguised compliance can:

- delay appropriate intervention
- mask ongoing abuse or neglect
- create a false sense of reassurance for professionals
- result in risks not being fully recognised
- prevent children from receiving the support they need

Staff should remain professionally curious and consider whether genuine, sustained change has occurred for the child.

Possible Indicators of Disguised Compliance

The following behaviours do not automatically indicate disguised compliance but should encourage professional curiosity and further exploration:

Engagement with Professionals

- repeatedly agreeing to actions but failing to complete them
- attending meetings but not implementing agreed plans
- cancelling, rearranging or avoiding appointments
- only engaging with professionals immediately before reviews or visits
- demonstrating temporary improvements which are not sustained

Explanations and Information

- providing inconsistent explanations
- providing different information to different professionals
- minimising concerns raised by professionals
- blaming other agencies, schools, professionals or the child
- focusing discussions on adults rather than the child

Home and Family Presentation

- presenting a significantly improved picture during planned visits
- appearing overly cooperative without evidence of change
- preventing professionals from speaking with children alone where appropriate
- avoiding discussion of concerns relating directly to the child

Child-Focused Indicators

- attendance concerns continuing despite assurances
- neglect indicators remaining unchanged
- repeated safeguarding concerns from different staff members
- no evidence that the child's day-to-day experiences have improved
- ongoing concerns despite apparent parental cooperation

Questions to Consider

When concerns arise, staff should ask:

About the Child

- What has changed for the child?
- Is the child safer?
- Has the child's lived experience improved?
- What evidence supports this?

About Professional Judgement

- Am I being reassured by parental engagement rather than outcomes?
- What concerns remain unresolved?
- Do I have sufficient evidence that risks have reduced?
- Have I considered alternative explanations?

About Multi-Agency Working

- Are all professionals receiving consistent information?
- Are there recurring concerns across different agencies?
- Does the level of professional concern match the level of intervention?

Responding to Disguised Compliance

Where disguised compliance is suspected, staff should:

- maintain professional curiosity
- record concerns factually and promptly
- focus on outcomes for the child
- avoid making assumptions
- seek clarification where needed
- discuss concerns with the Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL)
- continue to monitor and review progress
- share relevant information appropriately with partner agencies

The measure of success is not how well adults engage with professionals, but whether the child's circumstances, safety and wellbeing have genuinely improved.

Appendix 6 - Safeguarding and Education Resources

Resource	Description / Notes	Link
Keeping Children Safe in Education (KCSIE) 2026	Statutory guidance effective from 1 September 2026	https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/keeping-children-safe-in-education--2
Working Together to Safeguard Children (HM Government, 2026)	Multi-agency statutory guidance for safeguarding children.	https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/working-together-to-safeguard-children--2
Working Together to Improve School Attendance (DfE, 2024)	Statutory from September 2025; outlines expectations for attendance management.	https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/working-together-to-improve-school-attendance
Alternative Provision – DfE Statutory Guidance	Updated 5 February 2025, this guidance applies to all educational settings providing alternative provision (AP), including PRUs, academies, and independent providers. It outlines responsibilities for exclusions, behaviour interventions, and unregistered AP use.	https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/alternative-provision
Education for Children with Health Needs Who Cannot Attend School – DfE Statutory Guidance	Updated 14 December 2023, this guidance explains how local authorities must ensure children with health needs receive suitable education. It applies to children of compulsory school age who cannot attend school due to illness or disability.	https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/education-for-children-with-health-needs-who-cannot-attend-school
DfE: Generative AI – product safety expectations	Guidance on safe use of generative AI in educational settings.	https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/generative-ai-product-safety-expectations
UKCIS: Education for a Connected World	Age-appropriate framework for teaching online safety.	https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/education-for-a-connected-world
NPCC: When to call the police – guidance for schools and colleges	Practical advice on when police involvement is appropriate.	https://www.npcc.police.uk/SysSiteAssets/media/downloads/publications/publications-log/2020/when-to-call-the-police--guidance-for-schools-and-colleges.pdf

CSA Centre – resources on child sexual abuse and harmful sexual behaviour	Specialist materials and training on CSA and HSB.	https://www.csacentre.org.uk/
CSA Hub	Centralised access to CSA-related tools, guidance, and support.	https://www.csahub.org.uk
The Children’s Society – Preventing Child Sexual Exploitation guidance	Guidance to help identify and prevent child sexual exploitation.	https://www.childrenssociety.org.uk/what-we-do/our-work/preventing-child-sexual-exploitation
Lucy Faithfull Foundation – ‘Shore Space’	Confidential support for concerns about sexual behaviour.	https://www.lucyfaithfull.org.uk/shore-space.htm
KCSIE 2026 Webinars	Free webinars to support implementation of the new guidance.	https://safeguarding.network
KCSIE Knowledge Check	Verifies staff understanding of KCSIE 2026 and related policies.	https://safeguarding.network
Mandatory Reporting Implementation Pack	Tools to support rollout of mandatory CSA reporting.	https://safeguarding.network
Two-Year Rolling KCSIE Curriculum	Bite-size training modules for whole staff teams.	https://safeguarding.network
State of Childhood Vulnerability Report (2025)	Highlights post-pandemic challenges for vulnerable children.	https://centreforyounglives.org.uk
Youth Endowment Fund – Beyond the Headlines 2025	Trends in youth violence and safeguarding implications.	https://youthendowmentfund.org.uk
Online Harm in Schools – POSH Annual Report 2024	Insight into digital safeguarding challenges.	https://saferinternet.org.uk
Newham Family Help Offer	Support for families and students in Newham	http://www.newhamlscb.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2018/02/04892-Pathways_A4-HIRES.pdf Newham Families Local Offer
Prevent Referral (2025)	How to refer a student to prevent	Making a referral to Prevent - GOV.UK

Contextual Safeguarding	Resources and advice for contextual safeguarding	https://contextualsafeguarding.org.uk/about/what-is-contextual-safeguarding
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Appendix 7 Newham Safeguarding Self-Assessment Matrix

Purpose

This self-assessment tool supports schools, colleges and governing bodies in reviewing compliance with safeguarding requirements and KCSIE 2026 expectations.

1.Safeguarding Culture

Area	RAG	Evidence
Is safeguarding clearly embedded within the culture of the school?		
Is safeguarding a standing item on leadership and governor agendas?		
Do staff understand that safeguarding is everyone's responsibility?		
Is professional curiosity promoted and discussed?		
Are children able to identify trusted adults in school?		
Are safeguarding themes visible throughout the curriculum?		

2.Leadership and Governance

Area	RAG	Evidence
Has the Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy been reviewed and approved?		
Has the safeguarding governor received safeguarding training?		
Is safeguarding reported regularly to governors?		
Are safeguarding audits undertaken annually?		

Are governor safeguarding visits undertaken and recorded?		
Is there evidence of challenge and scrutiny by governors?		

3. Designated Safeguarding Lead

Area	RAG	Evidence
Is a trained DSL in post?		
Are trained Deputy DSLs in post?		
Are robust DSL cover arrangements in place?		
Is there a safeguarding inbox/email system?		
Is DSL supervision and safeguarding oversight evident?		

4. Family Help and Multi-Agency Working

Area	RAG	Evidence
Do staff understand Family Help pathways?		
Are Family Help referrals being used appropriately?		
Is the school represented at multi-agency meetings?		
Are chronologies maintained where appropriate?		
Is attendance at child protection and CIN meetings prioritised?		

5. Vulnerable Children

Area	RAG	Evidence
Are children with a social worker identified?		

Are children in kinship care identified?		
Are young carers identified and supported?		
Are pupils with SEND appropriately safeguarded?		
Are children with medical needs appropriately safeguarded?		
Are children in temporary accommodation identified?		
Are attendance concerns reviewed through a safeguarding lens?		

6. Child on Child Abuse

Area	RAG	Evidence
Do staff understand child-on-child abuse procedures?		
Are reporting systems accessible to pupils?		
Is child-on-child abuse recognised as a safeguarding issue for both children involved?		
Are incidents of discriminatory abuse recorded and addressed?		
Are sexual harassment and sexual violence concerns appropriately managed?		
Are risk assessments completed where required?		

7. Online Safety

Area	RAG	Evidence
Has filtering and monitoring been reviewed this academic year?		
Are online safety risks regularly reviewed?		

Have staff received online safety updates?		
Are risks relating to AI, deepfakes and FMSE understood?		
Is online safety taught through the curriculum?		
Are parents provided with online safety information?		

8. Alternative Provision

Area	RAG	Evidence
Is written safeguarding assurance obtained from AP providers?		
Does the school know where each child is educated during the school day?		
Are AP placements reviewed at least half-termly?		
Is attendance monitored?		
Are safeguarding concerns shared promptly?		
Is welfare and progress reviewed regularly?		

9. Safer Recruitment

Area	RAG	Evidence
Is the Single Central Record compliant?		
Are online searches undertaken for shortlisted candidates?		
Have recruitment staff completed safer recruitment training?		
Are volunteer checks compliant with KCSIE 2026 requirements?		
Are agency staff checks verified?		
Are trainee teacher requirements understood?		

10. Staff Conduct

Area	RAG	Evidence
Do staff understand low-level concerns procedures?		
Are low-level concerns recorded appropriately?		
Do staff understand whistleblowing procedures?		
Are safeguarding allegations managed appropriately?		
Are supply staff allegations managed in accordance with KCSIE 2026?		
Do staff understand low-level concerns procedures?		

Section 2

Governor Safeguarding Challenge Questions

Area	RAG	Evidence
How do leaders know safeguarding culture is effective?		
How do pupils report safeguarding concerns?		
How do leaders know children feel safe?		

DSL and Leadership

Area	RAG	Evidence
Who covers safeguarding when the DSL is absent?		
How often does the DSL receive supervision or support?		
What are the school's biggest safeguarding risks currently?		
How does the DSL assure themselves that safeguarding records are timely, accurate and evidence professional curiosity?		

Family Help

Area	RAG	Evidence
How many children have received Family Help support this year?		
How does the school identify children needing Family Help?		
What evidence is there that interventions improve outcomes?		

Child on Child Abuse

Area	RAG	Evidence
How many incidents of child-on-child abuse have been recorded?		
How are victims supported?		
How are reported children supported?		
How does the school address discriminatory abuse, misogyny and racism		

Alternative Provision

Area	RAG	Evidence
How many pupils attend Alternative Provision?		
How does the school monitor attendance and welfare?		
How often are placements reviewed?		
How does the school assure itself that AP safeguarding arrangements remain effective?		

Online Safety

Area	RAG	Evidence
When were filtering and monitoring arrangements last reviewed?		
How does the school respond to AI-related risks?		
What training have staff received?		
What are the school's current online safeguarding concerns?		

Vulnerable Pupils

Area	RAG	Evidence
How many children currently have a social worker?		
How many young carers have been identified?		
How are children in kinship care supported?		
How are children with SEND safeguarded?		

Recruitment and Staff Conduct

Area	RAG	Evidence
Is the Single Central Record compliant?		
Have any low-level concerns been recorded this year?		
How are volunteers risk assessed?		
How are supply staff safeguarding concerns managed?		

Strategic Challenge Questions for Governors and Leaders

Area	RAG	Evidence
How do we know children are safer this year than they were last year?		
What evidence shows that safeguarding interventions improve outcomes for children?		
Which safeguarding risks worry leaders most and what are we doing about them?		
How are the voices and lived experiences of children influencing safeguarding decisions?		
If Ofsted inspected tomorrow, what safeguarding area would leaders most want to strengthen?		

Appendix 8 Safeguarding Culture Indicators

Indicators of a Strong Safeguarding Culture

Staff:

- report concerns promptly
- demonstrate professional curiosity
- record concerns clearly
- challenge poor practice
- understand local processes

Children:

- know who to speak to
- feel listened to
- understand safeguarding messages
- have confidence in reporting systems

Leaders

- prioritise safeguarding
- quality assure records
- analyse safeguarding themes
- learn from incidents

Governors:

- provide challenge
- understand safeguarding risks
- receive safeguarding reports
- seek assurance

Appendix 9 Local Authority Contacts

Newham Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH)

Telephone: 0203 373 4600

Portal: [Newham Families Advice and Support | Safeguarding & Child Protection](#)

Email: MASH@newham.gov.uk

Education Safeguarding Team

Email: Education.Safeguarding@newham.gov.uk

Local Authority Designated Officer (LADO)

Alex Mihi and Evelyn Millyard

Email: LADO@newham.gov.uk

Prevent Lead

Ella Cameron

Email: Ella.Cameron@newham.gov.uk

Emergency Services - 999

Police non-emergency -101

NSPCC Helpline - 0808 800 5000

NSPCC Whistleblowing Helpline - 0800 028 0285

Childline - 0800 1111

Prevent Referral:

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/making-a-referral-to-prevent>