

**Ambassadors High School**  
**(Flexi School Safeguarding Policy)**  
**January 2018**

**Named personnel with designated responsibility for Safeguarding**

Academic Year	Designated Safeguarding Lead	Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead
Jan 2018	Ms Nadia Ali	Mr Mohamed Doud

**Policy review date January 2018**  
**Policy review date January 2018**

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## Introduction

The policy makes reference to, and is compliant with:

- “Working Together to Safeguard Children” (2015)
- “What to do if you are worried a child is being abused” (2015)
- “Keeping Children Safe in Education” (2015 and updates September 2016)

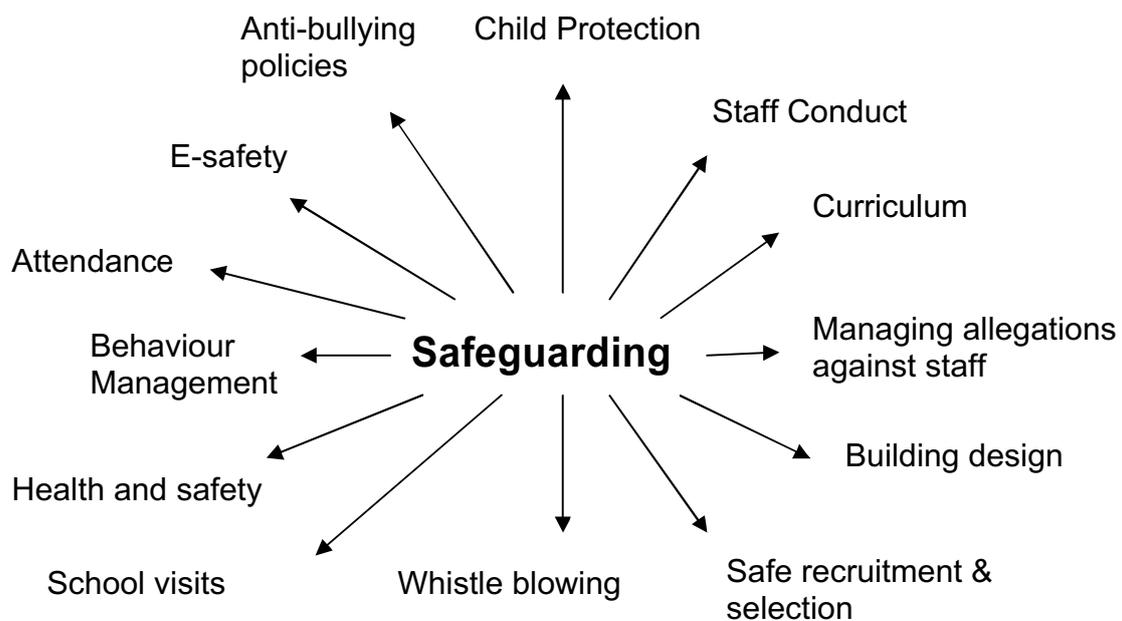
## Section 1 School Commitment

**This policy applies to all adults, including volunteers, working in or on behalf of the school.**

‘Everyone working in or for our school service shares an objective to help keep children and young people safe by contributing to:

- Providing a safe environment for children and young people to learn and develop in our school setting, and
- Identifying children and young people who are suffering or likely to suffer significant harm, and taking appropriate action with the aim of making sure they are kept safe both at home and in our school setting’

AHS is committed to safeguarding and promoting the well-being of all of its pupils. Each pupil’s welfare is of paramount importance. We recognise that some children *may* be especially vulnerable to abuse. We recognise that children who are abused or neglected may find it difficult to develop a sense of self-worth and to view the world in a positive way. Whilst at school, behaviour may be challenging. We recognise that they may exhibit concerning behaviour and at times this may impact on other children either directly or indirectly. We will always take a considered and sensitive approach in order that we can support all of our pupils.



## Section 2 Providing a Safe and Supportive Environment

### 2.1 Safer Recruitment and Selection (please download guidance on DBS, Vetting and Barring)

The school pays full regard to DfE guidance 'Keeping Children Safe in Education' Version 3 July 2015 and updated September 2016. We ensure that all appropriate measures are applied in relation to everyone who works in the school who is likely to be perceived by the children as a safe and trustworthy adult including e.g. volunteers and staff employed by contractors. Safer recruitment practice includes scrutinising applicants, verifying identity, academic and vocational qualifications, obtaining professional references, checking previous employment history and ensuring that a candidate has the health and physical capacity for the job. It also includes undertaking interviews and checking the candidates DBS status, the Children's List, Criminal Records Bureau checks and right to work in England checks.

In line with statutory changes, underpinned by regulations, the following will apply:

- A DBS Enhanced Disclosure is obtained for **all** new appointments to our school's workforce through UCHECK
- This school is committed to keep an up to date Single Centralised Register detailing a range of checks carried out on our staff (**this is based upon information provided by the candidate at the appointment interview**).
- All new appointments to our school workforce who have lived outside the UK will be subject to additional checks as appropriate.
- Our school ensures that supply staff have undergone the necessary checks and will be made aware of this policy.
- Identity checks must be carried out on all appointments to our school workforce before the appointment is made.
- If someone applies for a position and references and information expose child protection issues, the Headmistress would inform the Local Authority and DBS.
- Any member of the school staff who is dismissed from school for safeguarding issues will be reported to the Lambeth Safeguarding Board, the DBS and, in the case of teaching staff, to the NCTL, ISA and ISC.

The following named staff have undertaken Safer Recruitment in Education Training. One of these staff will be involved in all staff and volunteer appointments and arrangements (including, where appropriate, contracted services).

Ms Nadia Ali , Headmistress & Designated Safeguarding Lead

Mr M Daoud , Maths Teacher & Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead

### 2.2 Safe Practice

Our school will comply with the current Safe Practice guidance to be found on the Lambeth Safeguarding Board website <https://www.lambethscb.org.uk/>

Safe working practice ensures that pupils are safe and that all staff:

- Are responsible for their own actions and behaviour and should avoid any conduct which would lead any reasonable person to question their motivation and intentions;
- Work in an open and transparent way;
- Work with other colleagues where possible in situations open to question
- Discuss and/or take advice from school management over any incident which may give rise to concern;
- Record any incidents or decisions made;
- Apply the same professional standards regardless of gender, sexuality or disability
- Comply and are aware of the confidentiality policy
- Are aware that breaches of the law and other professional guidelines could result in criminal or disciplinary action being taken against them.

### **2.3 Safeguarding Information for pupils**

Pupils in our school are aware of a number of staff who they can talk to. The school is committed to ensuring that pupils are aware of behaviour towards them that is not acceptable and how they can keep themselves safe. All pupils know that we have a senior member of staff (DSL) with responsibility for child protection and know who this is. We inform pupils of whom they might talk to, both in and out of school, their right to be listened to and heard and what steps can be taken to protect them from harm. PSHCE and e-Safety awareness materials we use to help pupils learn how to keep safe are ChildLine, NSPCC, Police, Stranger Danger, Anti-bullying.

Our school will ensure that pupils are made aware that information can be found at the following helplines:

- [www.lambethscb.org.uk](http://www.lambethscb.org.uk) (Information on keeping children safe)
- [www.nspcc.org.uk](http://www.nspcc.org.uk) (Information on keeping children safe)
- [www.childline.org.uk](http://www.childline.org.uk) (Resources for children)
- [www.ceop.police.uk](http://www.ceop.police.uk) (Child Exploitation & Online Protection - internet safety)
- [www.thinkuknow.co.uk](http://www.thinkuknow.co.uk) (E-Safety resources)

Our School's arrangements for consulting with and listening to pupils, are through daily form teacher contact time as we are a flexi school so children join in at different times however they are aware who to talk to if need be. However, PCSHE lessons do take place throughout the day and matters are discussed with them.

### **2.4 Partnership with Parents**

The school shares a purpose with parents to educate children and keep them safe from harm.

We are committed to working with parents positively, openly and honestly. We ensure that all parents are treated with respect, dignity and courtesy. We respect parents' rights to privacy and confidentiality and will not share sensitive information unless we have permission or it is necessary to do so in order to protect a child.

Ambassadors High School will share with parents any concerns we may have about their child, unless to do so may place a child at risk of harm (see 4.3 Action by the Designated Safeguarding Lead).

We encourage parents to discuss any concerns they may have with their child's teacher or the head teacher

We make parents aware of our policies through the school's website and by sending links to updated policies.

Ambassadors High School is committed to ensuring the welfare and safety of all children in school. The school will, in most circumstances, endeavour to discuss all concerns with parents about their children. However, there may be exceptional circumstances when the school will discuss concerns with the Referral and Response Service and/or the Police without parental knowledge (in accordance with Lambeth Safeguarding Children Procedures). The school will, of course, always aim to maintain a positive relationship with all parents. The school's Safeguarding Policy is available on the school's website. Also in the policy folder which is kept in Reception for all parents to see, and is also available on request.

## **2.5 Partnerships with others**

Our school recognises that it is essential to establish positive and effective working relationships with other agencies who are partners in Lambeth Safeguarding Children Board, e.g. Local Authority, Referral and Response Service, Police, Health, District Council, Childline in Partnership with schools, NSPCC, National Youth Advocacy Service, Surestart, etc.

There is a joint responsibility on all these agencies to share information to ensure the safeguarding of all children.

## **2.6 School Training and Staff Induction**

The school's Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) with responsibility for child protection, undertakes appropriate child safeguarding training and inter-agency working training (provided by the Lambeth Safeguarding Children Board) and refresher training at 2 yearly intervals.

The Head teacher and all other school staff, including non-teaching staff, undertake appropriate induction training to equip them to carry out their responsibilities for child protection effectively, which is updated regularly.

The Basic Awareness of Child Abuse & Neglect online training can be accessed at <https://www.lambeth.gov.uk/community-safety-and-anti-social-behaviour/abuse-and-violence/lambeth-safeguarding-websites>

All staff (including temporary staff and volunteers) are provided with the school's Safeguarding Policy and informed of school's child protection arrangements on induction. All staff are asked to sign a disclaimer stating that they have read and understood the safeguarding policy.

## **2.7 Support, Advice and Guidance for Staff**

Staff will be supported by Ambassadors High School, the Local Authority and professional associations.

The Designated Safeguarding Lead for Child Protection will be supported by the Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead.

## 2.8 Related School Policies

Safeguarding covers more than the contribution made to child protection in relation to individual children. It also encompasses issues such as pupil health, child sexual exploitation (CSE), bullying (including cyberbullying), domestic abuse, drugs and substance misuse, fabricated or induced illness, faith abuse, female genital mutilation (FGM), forced marriage, gangs and youth violence, gender-based violence/violence against women and girls (VAWG), mental health, private fostering, radicalisation, sexting, teenage relationship abuse, trafficking, etc. There may be other emerging safeguarding issues that are local to the school or its area.

Keeping Children Safe in Education (2016) is the latest government publication on Child Safeguarding in Schools and is referred to in all our policies.

Children Missing from Education - [www.gov.uk/government/publications/school-attendance](http://www.gov.uk/government/publications/school-attendance)

Ambassadors High School has an Admission Register (Excel) and Daily Attendance Registers, and all pupils are placed on both registers.

Ambassadors High School's Flexi School program will write to the child's local authority as AHS keeps records of the letters that come through to the parents who decide to home school their child and is always happy to write to the local authority and share the child's progress made.

The school will inform the local authority of fulltime pupil who fails to attend school regularly, or has been absent without the school's permission for a continuous period of 10 school days or more.

### Confidentiality

The school has regard to "Information Sharing: Practitioner's guide" HM Government, 2015

[www.gov.uk/government/publications/safeguarding-practitioners-information-sharing-advice](http://www.gov.uk/government/publications/safeguarding-practitioners-information-sharing-advice)

"Where there is a concern that the child may be suffering or is at risk of suffering significant harm, the child's safety and welfare must be the overriding consideration".

## **The School has a clear and explicit Confidentiality Policy.**

The Confidentiality Policy indicates:

- a) **When information must be shared with Police and Social Care Response & Referral Team (formerly Duty and Assessment) where the child/young person is/or may be at risk of significant harm.**
- b) **When the pupil's and/or parent's confidentiality must not be breached**
- c) **That information is shared on a need to know basis**

## 2.9 Pupil Information

Ambassadors High School will endeavour to keep up to date and accurate information in order to keep children safe and provide appropriate care for them. The school requires accurate and up to date information regarding:

- Names and contact details of persons with whom the child normally lives.
- Names and contact details of all persons with parental responsibility (if different from the above).
- Emergency contact details (if different from the above).
- Details of any persons authorised to collect the child from school (if different from the above).
- Any relevant court orders in place, including those which affect any person's access to the child (e.g. Children and Families Court Order, Injunctions, etc.).
- If the child is or has been subject to a Child Protection Plan.
- Name and contact detail of G.P.
- Any other factors which may impact on the safety and welfare of the child.

The school will collate, store and agree access to this information, ensuring all information held electronically is stored securely with due regard to meeting data protection and safeguarding requirements.

## **2.10 Roles and Responsibilities**

### ***The Proprietor and the Head Teacher of the school will ensure:***

- The school has child protection policies and procedures in place that are in accordance with local authority guidance and locally agreed inter-agency procedures, and that the policy is made available to parents on request.
- The school operates safer recruitment procedures and makes sure that all appropriate checks are carried out on staff and volunteers who work with children; and that any panel involved in the recruitment of staff has at least one member who has undertaken Safer Recruitment Training (reviewed every 5 years).
- The school has procedures for dealing with allegations of abuse against staff and volunteers that comply with guidance from the local authority and locally agreed inter-agency procedures.
- E-safety policy and procedures are in place and training and support is provided for staff and pupils to ensure that there is a good understanding of child protection issues related to electronic media.
- A senior member of the school's leadership team is designated to take lead responsibility for child protection issues, providing advice and support to other staff, liaising with the local authority and working with other agencies.
- Staff, including the Headmistress, undertakes appropriate child protection training which is updated regularly.
- They remedy, without delay, any deficiencies or weaknesses regarding child protection arrangements.
- The proprietor is nominated to be responsible for liaising with the LA and/or partner agencies, in the event of allegations of abuse being made against the Headmistress.
- Where services or activities are provided on the school premises by another body, the body concerned has appropriate policies and procedures in place in regard to safeguarding children and child protection, and liaises with the school on these matters where appropriate.

***Headmistress will ensure that:***

- The policies and procedures adopted by Ambassadors High School are fully implemented and followed by all staff.
- Sufficient resources and time are allocated to enable the Designated Safeguarding Lead and other staff to discharge their responsibilities, including taking part in strategy discussions and other inter-agency meetings and contributing to the assessments of children.
- All staff and volunteers feel able to raise concerns about poor or unsafe practice in regard to children, and such concerns are addressed sensitively and effectively in a timely manner in accordance with agreed whistle-blowing policies.

***Designated Safeguarding Lead with Responsibility for Child Safeguarding will:***

Referrals:

- Refer cases of suspected abuse or allegations to the relevant investigating agencies and liaise with other agencies.
- Act as a source of support, advice and expertise within the school.

Training:

- Recognise how to identify signs of abuse and when it is appropriate to make a referral.
- Have a working knowledge of how Lambeth Safeguarding Children Board operates, the conduct of a child protection conference, and be able to attend and contribute to these and ongoing child protection plans.
- Ensure that all staff have access to and understand the school's Safeguarding Policy.
- Ensure that all staff have Safeguarding and E-Safety training as part of their induction.
- Keep detailed, accurate, secure written records of referrals, discussions with other agencies, and/or concerns.
- Obtain access to resources and attend any relevant or refresher training courses at least every two years.

Raising Awareness:

- Ensure the school's Safeguarding Policy is updated and reviewed annually and work with the proprietor.
- Ensure parents are made aware of the Safeguarding Policy which alerts them to the fact that referrals may be made, and the role of the establishment in this to avoid conflict later.
- Where a child leaves the school, ensure the child's individual safeguarding file is copied for the new school as soon as possible, and transferred to the new school separately from the main pupil file. If a child goes missing or leaves to be educated at home, then the child's safeguarding file will be copied and the copy forwarded to the Attendance & Pupil Support Service.

Where the parents inform school that they wish to 'home educate' their child, the school will contact the child's local authority that the child is no longer attending the AHS Flexi School.

**All staff and volunteers will:**

- Fully comply with the school's policies and procedures.
- Attend appropriate safeguarding training.
- Complete refresher safeguarding training at least every 3 years.
- Inform the designated safeguarding lead of any safeguarding concerns as soon as possible.

### **Section 3 Identifying Children who are Suffering or Likely to suffer Significant Harm**

Teachers and other adults in school are well placed to observe any physical, emotional or behavioural signs which indicate that a child may be suffering significant harm. The relationships between staff, pupils, parents and the public which foster respect, confidence and trust can lead to disclosures of abuse, and/or school staff being alerted to concerns. Staff must be particularly aware of children who have special educational needs (SEND), as these children are perhaps more vulnerable to abuse. Staff must ensure the welfare of SEND pupils particularly during playtimes, trips, etc, to ensure their safety.

In the case when the abuse may be done not by a parent or carer but another child in the school, 'peer-to-peer' abuse, safeguarding procedures would be followed for each child involved. The LADO would be contacted immediately for advice, guidance and support for the procedures that must be followed.

#### **3.1 Definitions:**

**A child:** As in the Children Act of 1989 and 2004, a child is anyone who has not yet reached his/her 18<sup>th</sup> birthday or, in the case of disabled children, 25 years.

**Harm** means ill-treatment or impairment of health and development including, for example, impairment suffered from seeing or hearing the ill-treatment of another;

**Development** means physical, intellectual, emotional, social or behavioural development;

**Health** includes physical and mental health;

**Ill-treatment** includes sexual abuse and other forms of ill-treatment which are not physical.

**Abuse and Neglect** are forms of maltreatment. Somebody may abuse or neglect a child by inflicting harm or failing to act to prevent harm. Children may be abused in a family or in an institutional or community setting; by those known to them, or, more rarely, by a stranger. They may be abused by an adult or adults or another child or children.

**Physical Abuse** may involve hitting, shaking, throwing, poisoning, burning or scalding, drowning, suffocating or otherwise causing physical harm to a child. Physical harm may also be caused when a parent or carer fabricates the symptoms of or deliberately induces illness in a child.

**Sexual Abuse** involves forcing or enticing a child or young person to take part in sexual activities, not necessarily involving a high level of violence, whether or not the child is aware of what is happening. The activities may involve physical contact including assault by penetration (for example, rape or oral sex), or non-penetrative acts such as masturbation, kissing, rubbing and touching outside of clothing. They may also include non-contact activities such as involving children in looking at, or in the production of, sexual images, watching sexual activities, encouraging children to behave in sexually inappropriate ways, or grooming a child in preparation for abuse (including via the internet and mobile phones). Sexual abuse is not solely perpetrated by adult males. Women can also commit acts of sexual abuse, as can other children.

**Neglect** is the persistent failure to meet a child's basic physical and/or psychological needs, likely to result in the serious impairment of the child's health or development. Neglect may occur during pregnancy as a result of maternal substance abuse. Once a child is born, neglect may involve a parent or carer failing to:

- Provide adequate food, clothing and/or shelter (including exclusion from home or abandonment).
- Protect a child from physical and emotional harm or danger.
- Ensure adequate supervision (including the use of inadequate caretakers).
- Ensure access to appropriate medical care or treatment.

It may also include neglect of, or unresponsiveness to, a child's basic emotional needs.

**Emotional Abuse** is the persistent emotional maltreatment of a child such as to cause severe and persistent adverse effects on the child's emotional development. It may involve conveying to children that they are worthless or unloved, inadequate, or valued only insofar as they meet the needs of another person. It may include not giving the child opportunities to express their views, deliberately silencing them or 'making fun' of what they say or how they communicate. It may feature age or developmentally inappropriate expectations being imposed on children. These may include interactions that are beyond the child's developmental capability, as well as overprotection and limitation of exploration and learning, or preventing the child participating in normal social interaction. It may involve seeing or hearing the ill-treatment of another. It may involve serious bullying (including cyber bullying via the internet or mobile phones), causing children frequently to feel frightened or in danger, or the exploitation or corruption of children. Some level of emotional abuse is involved in all types of maltreatment of a child, though it may occur alone.

**Please see Mobile Phone/Camera Policy and school Staff Handbook.**

### **3.2 Specific Safeguarding Issues**

These include:

- bullying including cyberbullying  
[www.gov.uk/government/publications/preventing-and-tackling-bullying](http://www.gov.uk/government/publications/preventing-and-tackling-bullying)
- domestic violence  
[www.gov.uk/domestic-violence-and-abuse](http://www.gov.uk/domestic-violence-and-abuse)
- drugs  
[www.gov.uk/government/publications/drugs-advice-for-schools](http://www.gov.uk/government/publications/drugs-advice-for-schools)

- fabricated or induced illness  
[www.gov.uk/government/publications/safeguarding-children-in-whom-illness-is-fabricated-or-induced](http://www.gov.uk/government/publications/safeguarding-children-in-whom-illness-is-fabricated-or-induced)
- faith abuse  
[www.gov.uk/government/publications/national-action-plan-to-tackle-child-abuse-linked-to-faith-or-belief](http://www.gov.uk/government/publications/national-action-plan-to-tackle-child-abuse-linked-to-faith-or-belief)
- forced marriage\_  
[www.gov.uk/forced-marriage](http://www.gov.uk/forced-marriage)
- gangs and youth violence\_  
[www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/418131/Preventing\\_youth\\_violence\\_and\\_gang\\_involvement\\_v3\\_March2015.pdf](http://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/418131/Preventing_youth_violence_and_gang_involvement_v3_March2015.pdf)
- gender based violence  
[www.gov.uk/government/policies/violence-against-women-and-girls](http://www.gov.uk/government/policies/violence-against-women-and-girls)
- mental health  
[www.gov.uk/government/publications/the-mental-health-strategy-for-england](http://www.gov.uk/government/publications/the-mental-health-strategy-for-england)
- private fostering  
[www.gov.uk/government/publications/children-act-1989-private-fostering](http://www.gov.uk/government/publications/children-act-1989-private-fostering)
- sexting  
[www.ceop.police.uk/Media-Centre/Press-releases/2009/What-does-sexting-mean/](http://www.ceop.police.uk/Media-Centre/Press-releases/2009/What-does-sexting-mean/)
- teenage relationship abuse\_  
[www.gov.uk/government/collections/this-is-abuse-campaign](http://www.gov.uk/government/collections/this-is-abuse-campaign)
- trafficking  
[www.gov.uk/government/publications/safeguarding-children-who-may-have-been-trafficked-practice-guidance](http://www.gov.uk/government/publications/safeguarding-children-who-may-have-been-trafficked-practice-guidance)

### **3.3 Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE)**

[www.gov.uk/government/publications/what-to-do-if-you-suspect-a-child-is-being-sexually-exploited](http://www.gov.uk/government/publications/what-to-do-if-you-suspect-a-child-is-being-sexually-exploited)

CSE involves exploitative situations, contexts and relationships where young people receive something (for example food, accommodation, drugs, alcohol, gifts, money or in some cases simply affection) as a result of engaging in sexual activities. Sexual exploitation can take many forms ranging from the seemingly 'consensual' relationship where sex is exchanged for affection or gifts, to serious organised crime by gangs and groups. What marks out exploitation is an imbalance of power in the relationship. The perpetrator always holds some kind of power over the victim which increases as the exploitative relationship develops. Sexual exploitation involves varying degrees of coercion, intimidation or enticement, including unwanted pressure from peers to have sex, sexual bullying including cyberbullying and grooming. However, it is also important to recognise that some young people who are being sexually exploited do not exhibit any external signs of this abuse.

### **3.4 Female Genital Mutilation (FGM)**

[www.gov.uk/government/publications/female-genital-mutilation-guidelines](http://www.gov.uk/government/publications/female-genital-mutilation-guidelines)

FGM is defined by the World Health Organisation as "all procedures that involve partial or total removal of the external female genitalia, or other injury to the female genital organs for non-medical reasons". There is no cultural or religious justification for FGM and it has been illegal in this country since 1985. If it is performed on a British citizen in the UK or overseas it is a crime. It can leave women and girls traumatised as well as in severe pain, cause difficulties in child birth, and in some rare cases it can lead to death. Current prevalence studies estimate that as many as 60,000 women and girls in the UK could be at risk of FGM, and over 125,000 may already be living with the consequences

The main countries of origin where FGM is practiced include Africa and the Middle East.

FGM frequently involves young girls between the ages of infancy and 15 years of age.

Professionals need to be alert to the possibility of a girl being at risk of FGM, or already having suffered FGM. There is a range of potential indicators that a child or young person may be at risk of FGM, which individually may not indicate risk but if there are two or more indicators present this could signal a risk to the child or young person. Victims of FGM are likely to come from a community that is known to practise FGM. Professionals should note that girls at risk of FGM may not yet be aware of the practice or that it may be conducted on them, so sensitivity should always be shown when approaching the subject.

#### Warning signs of Girls at Risk

Member of a community whose country of origin practises FGM and that is less integrated into UK society.

A girl whose sister or other relatives have undergone FGM.

A girl whose parents have withdrawn her from lessons featuring FGM (where other warning signs are also present).

Families making preparations for an extended holiday, including arranging vaccinations in the country of origin.

Families may practice FGM in the UK when a female family member elder is visiting from the country of origin.

You may hear reference to FGM in conversation, for example a girl may tell other children about it.

There is a **MANDATORY** reporting duty upon the school to report to the Police where they discover that FGM appears to have been carried out on a girl under 18 years.

### **3.5 Preventing Radicalisation**

[www.gov.uk/government/publications/channel-guidance](http://www.gov.uk/government/publications/channel-guidance)

The Counter-Terrorism and Security Act, which received Royal Assent on 12 February 2015, places a duty on specified authorities, including local authorities and childcare, education and other children's services providers, in the exercise of their functions, to have due regard to the need to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism ("the Prevent duty").

The Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015 will also place a duty on local authorities to ensure Channel panels are in place. The panel must include the local authority and chief officer of the local police.

Panels will assess the extent to which identified individuals are vulnerable to being drawn into terrorism, following a referral from the police and where considered appropriate and necessary consent is obtained, arrange for support to be provided to those individuals.

The Act will require partners of Channel panels to co-operate with the panel in the carrying out of its functions and with the police in undertaking the initial assessment as to whether a referral is appropriate.

## **Lambeth Prevent Strategy**

Prevent is one of strand of the UK's overall counter terrorism strategy, known as CONTEST. Prevent aims to stop people becoming terrorists or supporting terrorism by focusing on the following 3 objectives;

- Challenging **ideologies** that support terrorism and those who promote it.
- Protecting vulnerable **individuals** from being drawn into extremism through appropriate advice and support.
- Supporting sectors and **institutions** where there is a risk of radicalisation.

Section 26 of the Counter Terrorism and Security Act 2015 places a statutory duty on specified authorities to have '*due regards to the need to Prevent People from being drawn into terrorism*'. Specified authorities identified as part of this duty apply to bodies which have significant interaction with children, young people and adults, who could be vulnerable to radicalisation and extremism. The authorities listed within this duty include early years and out of school settings, schools, colleges and private and voluntary services that exercise functions in relation to children, for example children's homes and private fostering agencies.

In order to fulfil their statutory duty authorities within these areas should address the following key points;

### **1. Risk Assessments**

- Assess the risk of children and young people being drawn into extremist ideologies within their institution.
- Demonstrate an understanding of risks affecting children in their area.
- Have clear safeguarding procedures in place via their Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) – including appropriate recording keeping.
- Respond in an appropriate manner in issues of concern, making appropriate referrals to Channel. Channel is an early intervention multi-agency process designed to safeguard vulnerable people from being drawn into violent extremist or terrorist behaviour. Channel works in a similar way to existing safeguarding partnerships aimed at protecting vulnerable people.
- Prohibit extremist speakers within their institutions.

### **2. Staff training**

- Assess the individual training needs of staff within their institution, including members of the Foundation Committee.
- Ensure that all or associate members of staff complete the e-learning general awareness course (if identified as not key and appropriate members of staff)

[http://course.ncalt.com/Channel\\_General\\_Awareness/01/index.html](http://course.ncalt.com/Channel_General_Awareness/01/index.html)

- Ensure that the Designated Safeguarding Lead within institutions cascades appropriate Prevent related information and guidance to staff.

### 3. Working in Partnership

- Use existing local arrangements such as the Lambeth's Safeguarding Children's Board.
- Engage with parents and families, providing assistance and advice to these individuals and families where necessary.

### 4. IT Policies

- Ensure there are suitable filtering policies in place (including the use of wifi)
- Conduct regular e-safety awareness sessions raising awareness of the online risks of harm (to parents, children and staff)

The National Prevent Strategy defines extremism as;

*“the vocal or active opposition to fundamental British values, including democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty and mutual respect of different faiths and beliefs. We also include in our definition of extremism, calls for death of members of our armed forces”.*

Young people growing up will experience risk associated with the transition from childhood to adulthood, and this can involve exploring alternative ideologies and engaging in risky behaviours. It is therefore vital that the focus of Prevent work is targeted at preventing people exposing themselves to risk and providing early support to prevent further escalation of risk. Establishments working with children and young people can help with this work by building a strong curriculum that enables children and young people to think critically and build resilience, along with providing positive supportive mechanisms within their establishments and local communities

### Prevent Contact Details

#### Prevent Coordinator Lambeth:

The Prevent Education Officer in Lambeth is Lydia Nixon, please email LNixon@lambeth.gov.uk or [prevent@lambeth.gov.uk](mailto:prevent@lambeth.gov.uk) for any queries.



### Useful Links and Resources

Prevent Duty Guidance

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/prevent-duty-guidance>

Channel General Awareness

[http://course.ncalt.com/Channel\\_General\\_Awareness/01/index.html](http://course.ncalt.com/Channel_General_Awareness/01/index.html)

UK Safer Internet Centre

<http://www.saferinternet.org.uk/>



Department for Education Guidance

<http://www.foundationyears.org.uk/files/2015/06/prevent-duty-departmental-advice.pdf>

Prevent for Schools

<http://www.preventforschools.org/>

Working Together to Safeguard Children

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/working-together-to-safeguard-children--2>

Keeping Children Safe in Education

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/keeping-children-safe-in-education--2>

## **Section 4 Taking Action to ensure that Children are Safe at School and at Home**

All staff are to follow procedures set in this policy to ensure all children are safe.

It is **NOT** the responsibility of the school staff to investigate welfare concerns, or determine the truth of any disclosure or allegation. All staff, however, have a duty to recognise concerns and maintain an open mind. All concerns regarding the welfare of pupils will be recorded and discussed with the designated safeguarding lead with responsibility for child protection (or another senior member of staff in the absence of the DSL) prior to any discussion with parents.

### **4.1 Concerns that staff must immediately report:**

- Any suspicion that a child is injured, marked, or bruised in a way which is not readily attributable to the normal knocks or scrapes received in play.
- Any explanation given which appears inconsistent or suspicious.
- Any behaviours which give rise to suspicions that a child may have suffered harm (e.g. worrying drawings or play).
- Any concerns that a child may be suffering from inadequate care, ill treatment, or emotional maltreatment.
- Any concerns that a child is presenting signs or symptoms of abuse or neglect.
- Any significant changes in a child's presentation, including non-attendance.
- Any hint or disclosure of abuse from any person.
- Any concerns regarding person(s) who may pose a risk to children (e.g. living in a household with children present).

### **4.2 Responding to Disclosure**

Disclosures or information may be received from pupils, parents or other members of the public. The school recognises that those who disclose such information may do so with difficulty, having chosen carefully to whom they will speak. Accordingly, all staff will handle disclosures with sensitivity.

Such information cannot remain confidential and staff will immediately communicate what they have been told to the Designated Safeguarding Lead.

#### Principles:

Staff will not investigate but will, wherever possible, elicit enough information to pass on to the designated safeguarding lead in order that she/he can make an informed decision of what to do next.

Staff will:

- Listen to and take seriously any disclosure or information that a child may be at risk of harm.
- Try to ensure that the person disclosing does not have to speak to another member of school staff.
- Clarify the information.

- Keep questions to a minimum and of an 'open' nature e.g. 'Can you tell me what happened?' rather than 'Did x hit you?'
- Try not to show signs of shock, horror or surprise.
- Not express feelings or judgements regarding any person alleged to have harmed the child.
- Explain sensitively to the person that they have a responsibility to refer the information to the Designated Safeguarding Lead.
- Reassure and support the child as far as possible.
- Explain that only those who 'need to know' will be told.
- Explain what will happen next and that the person will be involved as appropriate.

#### **4.3 Action by the Designated Safeguarding Lead (or other senior person who is able to cover this role)**

Following any information raising concern, the DSL will consider:

- Any urgent medical needs of the child.
- Making an enquiry to find out if the child is subject to a child protection plan by ringing/emailing  
The referral must be sent to First Response Team (FRT) via secure email [duty.manager@lambeth.cjsm.net](mailto:duty.manager@lambeth.cjsm.net) or with password protection to [dutymanager@lambeth.gov.uk](mailto:dutymanager@lambeth.gov.uk)  
Generic Line 020 7926 3344, Out of hours 020 7926 1000
- Discussing the matter with other agencies involved with the family.
- Consulting with appropriate persons, e.g. Safeguarding Officer and/or Lambeth Referral and Response Service.
- The child's wishes.

Then decide:

- Wherever possible to talk to parents, unless to do so may place a child at risk of significant harm, impede any police investigation and/or place the member of staff or others at risk (i.e. sexual abuse, forced marriage or fabricated illness).
- Whether to make a child protection referral to Children's Social Care Referral and Response Service because a child is suffering, or is likely to suffer significant harm, and if this needs to be undertaken immediately.

**OR**

- Not to make a referral at this stage.
- If further monitoring is necessary.
- If it would be appropriate to undertake an assessment – Single Assessment Part 1 process (formerly Early Help Assessment) and/or make a referral for other services.

All information and actions taken, including the reasons for any decisions made, will be fully documented. All referrals to the Referral and Response Service will be followed up in writing within 24 hours.

#### **4.4 Action following a child safeguarding referral**

The Designated Safeguarding Lead or other appropriate member of staff will:

- Make regular contact with the social worker involved to stay informed.
- Wherever possible, contribute to the strategy discussion.

- Provide a report for / attend and contribute to any subsequent child protection conference.
  - If the child or children are made the subject of a child protection plan, contribute to the child protection plan and attend core group meetings and review conferences.
  - Where possible, share all reports with parents prior to meetings.
- Where a child subject to a child protection plan moves from the school or goes missing, immediately inform Lambeth Referral and Response Service on . Generic Line 020 7926 3344 Out of hours 020 7926 1000

#### **4.5 Recording and Monitoring**

Accurate records will be made as soon as practicable and will clearly distinguish between observation, fact, opinion and hypothesis. All records will be signed and dated, and any information given will be recorded verbatim where possible and a note made of the location and description of any injuries seen.

All documents will be retained in a 'Child Safeguarding' file separate from the child's school file. This will be locked away and only accessible to the Headmistress and Designated Safeguarding Lead. These records will be copied and transferred to any school or setting the child moves to, clearly marked 'Child Safeguarding, Confidential, for attention of Designated Safeguarding Lead for Child Safeguarding.' If the child goes missing from education or is removed from roll to be educated at home, then any child safeguarding file should be copied and the copy sent to the Attendance & Pupil Support Service. Original copies will be retained until the child's 25<sup>th</sup> birthday.

#### **4.6 Supporting the child and partnership with parents**

- Ambassadors High School recognises that the child's welfare is paramount, however good child protection practice and outcome relies on a positive, open and honest working partnership with parents.
- Whilst we may, on occasion, need to make referrals without consultation with parents, we will make every effort to maintain a positive working relationship with them whilst fulfilling our duties to protect any child.
- We will provide a secure, caring, supportive and protective relationship for the child.
- Children will be given a proper explanation (appropriate to age and understanding) of what action is being taken on their behalf and why.
- We will endeavour always to preserve the privacy, dignity and right to confidentiality of the child and parents. The Designated Safeguarding Lead will determine which members of staff "need to know" personal information and what they "need to know" for the purpose of supporting and protecting the child.
- Working Together 2015 states; Children should, wherever possible, be seen alone and local authority children's social care has a duty to ascertain the child's wishes and feelings regarding the provision of services to be delivered. It is important to understand the resilience of the individual child when planning appropriate services. The Children Act 1989 promotes the view that all children and their parents should be considered as individuals and that family structures, culture, religion, ethnic origins and other characteristics should be respected.
- Staff must realise the importance of not only listening to the child but also taking action to ensure the child's safety.

## **Section 5 Allegations of Abuse made against Teachers and other Staff (including Volunteers)**

Where an allegation is made against any person working in or on behalf of the school that he or she 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; or
- behaved towards a child or children in a way that indicates she/he would pose a risk of harm to children.

We will apply the same principles as in the rest of this document Detailed records will be made to include decisions, actions taken, and reasons for these. All records will be retained securely in the safe room in school.

Whilst we acknowledge such allegations (as all others) may be false, malicious or misplaced, we also acknowledge they may be founded. It is therefore essential that all allegations are investigated properly and in line with agreed procedures.

The school will take the following initial action:

- The person who has received an allegation or witnessed an event will immediately inform the Headmistress and make a record.
- In the event that an allegation is made against the Headmistress, without informing the Head, the matter will be reported to the Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead and/or the Proprietor who will proceed as the 'Headmistress'. Action will be taken immediately.
- The Headmistress (or Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead and/or the Proprietor if the allegation is about the Headmistress) will take steps, where necessary, to secure the immediate safety of children and any urgent medical needs.
- The member of staff will not be approached at this stage unless it is necessary to address the immediate safety of children.
- The Headmistress (or Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead and/or the Proprietor if the allegation is about the Headmistress) may need to clarify any information regarding the allegation. However, no person will be interviewed at this stage.
- The Headmistress (or Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead and/or the proprietor if the allegation is about the Headmistress) will consult with the Local Authority Designated Office for Child Protection within 24 hours, in order to determine if it is appropriate for the allegation to be dealt with by school or if there needs to be a referral to Lambeth Referral and Response Service and/or the police for investigation
- Consideration will be given throughout to the support and information needs of pupils, parents and staff.
- The Headmistress will inform the Proprietor of any allegations

## Useful websites, guidance documents, training materials

### Websites

CAPE (Child Protection in Education)	<a href="http://www.cape.org.uk">www.cape.org.uk</a>
Keeping Children Safe	<a href="http://www.ceop.gov.uk">www.ceop.gov.uk</a>
KS2/3	<a href="http://www.dotcomcf.org/">www.dotcomcf.org/</a>
Bullying & Child Abuse	<a href="http://www.anti-bullyingalliance.org">www.anti-bullyingalliance.org</a> <a href="http://www.kidscape.org.uk">www.kidscape.org.uk</a> <a href="http://www.childline.org.uk">www.childline.org.uk</a> <a href="http://www.nspcc.org.uk">www.nspcc.org.uk</a>
Internet Safety	<a href="http://www.ceop.org.uk/thinkuknow">www.ceop.org.uk/thinkuknow</a> <a href="http://www.childnet-int.org">www.childnet-int.org</a>
KS2/3	<a href="http://www.kidsmart.org.uk">www.kidsmart.org.uk</a> <a href="http://www.yhgfl.net">www.yhgfl.net</a>
Forced Marriage	<a href="http://www.fco.gov.uk/forcedmarriage">www.fco.gov.uk/forcedmarriage</a>
The Female Genital Mutilation Helpline	<a href="mailto:fgmhelp@nspcc.org.uk">fgmhelp@nspcc.org.uk</a> 0800 028 3550
Safe Practice in Physical Education in Schools and School Sport 2012	<a href="http://www.afpe.org.uk/membership-services/health-a-safety/safe-practice">www.afpe.org.uk/membership-services/health-a-safety/safe-practice</a>
DfE (DCSF) Documents	
Keeping Children Safe in Education (DfE 2015 updated September 2016)	<a href="http://www.gov.uk/government/publications/keeping-children-safe-in-education--2">www.gov.uk/government/publications/keeping-children-safe-in-education--2</a>
Working Together to Safeguard Children (DfE 2015)	<a href="http://www.gov.uk/government/publications/working-together-to-safeguard-children--2">www.gov.uk/government/publications/working-together-to-safeguard-children--2</a>
What to do if you're worried a child is being abused (DfE 2015)	<a href="http://www.gov.uk/government/publications/what-to-do-if-youre-worried-a-child-is-being-abused--2">www.gov.uk/government/publications/what-to-do-if-youre-worried-a-child-is-being-abused--2</a>

### School Documents

Guidance for Safe Working Practice for Adults who work with Children and Young People in Education settings - 2009

<http://www.safeguardingschools.co.uk/guidance-for-safer-working-practice-for-adults-who-work-with-children-and-young-people-in-education-settings/>