



Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy -Abridged Version for Visitors/Volunteers

Definitions

Safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children refers to the processes of protecting students from harm, preventing the impairment of their health and development, ensuring that we seek to improve the general health and well-being of all students in our care. Child Protection is the core element of safeguarding and is defined as the responsibility to protect children who are suffering or likely to suffer from harm as a result of abuse or neglect. One principle should always underpin everything we do in our engagement with children: **“The Child’s Welfare is paramount.”**

Forms of Abuse and Specific Safeguarding Issues-4 main categories of abuse:

- Neglect -This is the persistent failure to meet a child’s basic physical or psychological needs likely to result in the serious impairment of the child’s health or development.
- Physical Abuse -a form of abuse which may involve hitting, shaking, throwing, poisoning, burning, scalding or otherwise cause harm to a child
- Sexual Abuse -involves forcing or enticing a child into sexual activities, whether or not the child is aware what is happening. This includes non-contact activities over social media or the internet.
- Emotional Abuse -the persistent maltreatment of a child such as to cause severe and adverse effects on the child’s emotional development. This may involve conveying to a child that they are worthless, unloved or valued only in so far as they meet the needs of another person.

Note: While the above are the 4 broad main areas of potential abuse, abuse itself can take many forms, many of which have either an emotional, physical, sexual or neglectful impact (or combination of more than one of these). Examples of these harmful situations are noted on the full policy.

If you are concerned about a student (KEY POINTS)

- ❖ If you suspect that a child may be a victim of abuse, you should not try to investigate, but should immediately report this to the DSL.
- ❖ Everyone must make sure they know who the DSLs are in our school (refer to Visitor Code of Conduct, which is on our website/at all reception areas).
- ❖ Safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children is everyone’s responsibility, including staff and volunteers.

Guidelines at BSG (Volunteers, 3rd Party/External Staff)

- Regular volunteers should not be left unsupervised unless they have submitted all required documentation to HR. All *regular* volunteers will be required to sign on our Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy and attend a debrief training session.
- *Any concern/allegation about any adults at school should directly go to School Principal (if principal cannot be contacted-report to Vice Principal).*

Allegations Against Adults Working with Children

An allegation can be defined as a concern suggesting one of the following: an adult has...

- Behaved in a way that has harmed, 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 he or she would pose a risk of harm.
- The NAE allegations policy relates to members of staff (including volunteers) who are currently working in any school regardless of whether that school is where the alleged abuse took place. Historical allegations against a member of staff who is no longer working at a Nord Anglia school may still need to be referred to the police or relevant authorities.

Allegations can be avoided by following the school’s Guidance for Safer Working Practice (please refer to the abridged version of this document).