

Eton Fives Association Safeguarding Training

For all EFA officers, coaches and
volunteers dealing with children and
vulnerable adults. 2020

Definitions

For Child / Children

- Read • Child / children
- and vulnerable adult (s)

Statutory Responsibility

All safeguarding procedures are a matter of law.

Section 157 of the Education Act 2002 - places a duty on Local Authorities, Governing Bodies, Clubs and Schools to Safeguard and Promote the Welfare of Children. Failure to act could result in prosecution.

Individuals and Schools remain responsible for their actions/inactions in relation to safeguarding children.

Safeguarding includes staff being trained on arrival at a school or induction to a club and every 3 years thereafter

Existing Legislation / Guidance

The Children Act 1989

Section 17 - Children who are in need

Section 47 - Children who are suffering or at risk

Working Together to Safeguard Children 2010

Keeping Children Safe in Education KSCIE March 2015 - and updates.

How did we get here?

Victoria Climbié - February 2000

Victoria died, aged 8, with 128 separate injuries to her body

- Victoria was not on a school role
- Victoria was known to 18 different care agencies.
- They did not liaise with each other

Soham Murders - August 2002

- Ian Huntley – Able to move from School to school when there were strong suspicions against him. No one blew the whistle. Preferred to protect their school name.

Baby P – 2007

- died 18 months –
- over 50 injuries – known to numerous Haringey care agencies. Inadequate liaison.

Many more

We therefore now have a statutory duty to report any concerns

Notes

The success – or otherwise – of safeguarding relies on everyone reporting all suspicions they may have of:

- any signs of abuse a child may show
- any action by any one else including close colleagues and even friends, that makes them feel uncomfortable.
- This is a statutory duty.

Facts about Child Abuse

- 1-2 children are killed every week in the UK - in 44% of cases the parents were principal suspects.
- There are in excess of 110,000 convicted child sex offenders living in the UK.
- Each perpetrator on average, abuses 100 times before they are caught.
- Research shows no correlation between being sexually abused as a child and going on to become an abuser as an adult
- Each week at least 1 child dies from cruelty
- Under 1s are more at risk of being killed than any other age group under 18 in England and Wales.

Facts about Child Abuse

- Killings of children by a natural parent are committed in nearly equal proportions by mothers and fathers.
- ChildLine receives more calls regarding physical rather than sexual abuse.
- Over 500,000 referrals are made to social services departments every year - 75% of these are from schools.
- Of children who are subject to child protection plans, the highest number are for neglect, then emotional abuse.
- Domestic violence accounts for 15% of all violent crime.

Child Exploitation Online Protection (CEOP) data

- More than 50,000 sexual predators are thought to be online at any one time in the UK.
- It is thought that every abuser abuses 100 times before they are caught
- It is estimated that 1 in 5 young internet users have received unwanted sexual solicitation.

- Overall – this a growing area of abuse and one that can be difficult to detect – we must take this very seriously.

Definition

Safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and vulnerable adults is defined as:

protecting children from maltreatment

preventing impairment of children's health or development

ensuring that children are growing up in circumstances consistent with the provision of safe and effective care; and undertaking that role so as **to enable children to have optimum life chances to enter adulthood successfully**

Types of Abuse

- Physical
- Sexual
- Neglect
- Emotional

Physical Abuse

- May involve hitting, shaking, throwing, poisoning, burning or scalding, drowning or 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

Signs that MAY indicate Physical abuse

Unexplained Bruising / Marks on the body

Unwillingness to remove clothing / shower

Twitching away from potentially threatening behaviour (eg raised arm)

Changes in behaviour

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.

The activities may involve physical contact, including assault by penetration (eg. rape) or non-penetrative acts such as masturbation, kissing, rubbing etc.

They may also include non-contact activities such as involving children looking at sexual images or grooming a child in preparation for abuse (including via the internet).

Signs that MAY indicate Sexual Abuse:

- Sudden changes in behaviour and school performance
- Displays of affection which are sexual and age inappropriate
- Self harm, self mutilation and attempts at suicide
- Alluding to secrets which they cannot reveal
- Tendency to cling or need constant reassurance
- Unexplained gifts or money
- Depression and withdrawal
- Fear of undressing for gym activities
- Fire starting

Neglect

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 and development.

Neglect may involve a parent or carer failing to provide food, clothing, shelter; failing to protect a child from physical or emotional harm; failing to provide adequate supervision or failing to ensure access to appropriate medical care or treatment.

Signs that MAY indicate Neglect:

- Excessive hunger
- Poor personal hygiene, especially poor dental hygiene
- Frequent tiredness
- Inadequate clothing
- Frequent lateness or non-attendance at school
- Untreated medical problems
- Poor relationship with peers
- Compulsive stealing or scavenging
- Rocking, hair twisting and thumb sucking
- Running away

Emotional Abuse

Persistent emotional maltreatment of a child such as to cause severe & persistent adverse effects on the child's emotional development. It may involve:

- conveying to children that they are worthless, inadequate
- not giving the child opportunities to express their views
- making fun of what they say
- causing children frequently to feel frightened or in danger
- seeing or hearing the ill-treatment of another
- serious bullying, including cyber-bullying

Some level of emotional abuse is involved in all types of maltreatment of a child, though it may occur alone.

Signs that MAY indicate Emotional Abuse:

- Over reaction to mistakes
- Lack of self confidence
- Sudden speech disorders
- Self harming
- Extremes of passivity and / or aggression
- Compulsive stealing
- Drug, alcohol, solvent abuse
- Fear of parents being contacted
- Excessive need for approval, attention and affection.

Notes

- The key word in all the slides on signs is 'MAY'
- It is possible that a number of signs that indicate abuse are evident – perhaps in combination - but that there has still been no abuse.
- Do not jump to conclusions
- **Always report your concerns** however.

Child Protection

- Child Protection is part of safeguarding and promoting welfare. It refers to the activity that is undertaken to protect specific children who are suffering, or are likely to suffer, significant harm
- Effective Child Protection is essential as part of wider work to safeguard and promote the welfare of children. However, all agencies and individuals should aim to proactively safeguard and promote the welfare of children so that the need for action to protect children from harm is reduced.

The EFA should:

- Have a named Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL)
- Have a Child Protection Policy and procedures in place in accordance with regulation.
- Make the policy clearly available to all who need to or want to see it and review it annually.
- Have procedures for dealing with allegations of abuse against members of staff that comply with regulatory procedures.
- Ensure that all staff or volunteers are aware of the EFA CP policy.

If a child reports abuse to you

- Reassure
- React
- Record
- Support

Reassure

- Stay calm and tell the child that he/she has done the right thing in talking to you
- Be honest: do not make promises that you cannot keep
- **Do not promise confidentiality**
- Acknowledge how hard it must have been for the child to tell you what happened

React

- React only as far as is necessary for you to establish whether or not you need to refer this matter; **do not interrogate.**
- **Ask open questions.** (Eg. Is there anything else you would like to tell me?)
- Explain what you have to do next and to whom you have to talk
- But do not chat to other members of The EFA / school concerned..... **'need to know policy'**

Record

- Make notes of the conversation as soon as possible
- Take care to record timing, setting and personnel as well as what was said
- Be objective in your recording; do not include your interpretations
- Use the language of the child, not 'adult speak'

Support

- The child will need support through the process of investigation and afterwards
- You may / will need support

Notes

- If a child asks you to listen to them you should always do so.
- The only exception would be when:
 - by listening to one you exposed others, for whom you had responsibility, to physical harm.
- You should get the others to safety as soon as possible and then listen to the child.

Notes

No matter what you have heard you should avoid the temptation of talking to other staff. Only the DSL.

- If a child has been abused – for example at home - then returning to school may be a real therapy for them – but it may not be if they are humiliated by the thought that all adults with them know what they have been through.
- In all cases referral should be to the DSL of the EFA and of the school to which the pupil belongs

Did you know?

As a result of the Sexual Offences Act 2003, it is a criminal offence for a person in a position of trust to engage in a relationship with a young person under 18 years of age.

Allegations against EFA staff and volunteers

- All allegations should be referred to the DSL – unless the allegation is about the DSL in which case tell the Chair of the EFA
- THE DSL will liaise with the Social Services and Police as required.
- Pending a full investigation, member of staff / volunteer may be suspended from duty.
- Those who face allegations are subject to all potential penalties under criminal law.

Notes

- Suspension is deemed to be a neutral state – but of course it is difficult to return from suspension based on a charge of alleged abuse with the full trust of children, parents and other adults.
- The key is not to place yourself in a compromising position where you may be subject to allegations – either real or malicious – in the first place.
- Much of this is common sense.

Safe Working Practice

- One to One Situations
- Avoid whenever possible –

Safe Working Practice

Transporting Children

Again a minimum of two –

Always place passengers in the back seats

If there is only one passenger then they should ride in the back – even if they have to be moved once others get out.

NB – you will need business insurance to take children in your private car.

Seek insurance advice before driving a minibus

Safe working practice

- Pupils in Distress / Physical Contact
- If a child needs comfort or medical attention then it is as much abuse to declare that 'you cannot touch them' as it is to get too close to them.
- **Always give the child the choice however.** Let them know what you are going to do in advance (eg 'I am going to examine your ankle to see if it is broken')
- Only ignore this if you are in a life or death situation where you would be acting in 'loco parentis'.

Safe Working Practice

- Infatuations
- It may not be uncommon for a child to have an infatuation with an older coach.
- They may ask personal questions. Never respond or encourage such questioning.
- Equally, do not tell them that they have asked an inappropriate question and make them feel uncomfortable.
- **If you think a child is taking too much personal interest in you then tell the DSL.** If there is any kind of second occurrence, then you / the DSL should let parents know directly.

Safe working practice

- Social Contact
- You should not have social media contact with any child
- If you have to have the phone number of a child on your personal phone then let the parents know that you have it and **copy parents into all communications.**

Safe Working Practice

- Photography, Videos
- Again you should not have any photos or videos of a child on your personal camera.
- If you have to, then:
 - let the child and parents know,
 - download the images only onto the EFA sites and
 - delete the images within 24 hours.
 - **Follow the EFA policy on use of Images**

Safe Working Practice

- Medical issues
 - If a child is injured then seek someone who has first aid training.
 - Do not remove the clothing of a child to inspect an injury without the child's permission.
 - The removal of undergarments should only be done in absolute necessity and preferably:
 - With permission
 - By an adult of the same gender
 - When more than one adult is there.
- Only bypass these guidelines in a life or death situation.

KCSIE

- The Keeping Children Safe in Education document is the most vital of all.
- **Everyone must read this.**
- The latest version is attached separately

Prevent

- The Prevent Programme is part of KCSIE
- It reminds us of our duty to look out for such things as:
 - Children who might be subject to religious radicalisation
 - Children who might be subject to extremist actions within their religions – eg Female Genital Mutilation (FGM)
 - It is our duty to report any concern.

If you suspect a child is being abused
or has been abused

TELL THE DSL