

If a student begins to confide any matter involving alleged abuse, you should follow the following guidelines:

- Don't make any promises to the student.
- Stay calm and reassuring.
- Explain that you cannot promise to keep what they tell you as a secret, in their own interest. You may have to inform the Designated Person Mrs Ruddock.
- Listen to the student rather than directly question them.
- Do not press them for details or ask leading questions.

**Sandymoor School Safeguarding Team:-**

Mrs Rebecca Ruddock

Senior Assistant Principal, DSL

Mrs Gill Gibbs

HNSS Team Leader, Deputy DSL

Mrs Sally Jones—Principal

Mrs Lynsey Donaghy—ARC Manager

Mrs Alison Cahill—HNSS

(If you cannot locate any of the staff above or any of the SG team and/or you have an urgent concern regarding safeguarding a student then please see the Principal or other SLT members)



Incident forms are completed via CPOMS on <https://sandymoor.cpoms.net/>

Should be factual and include:-

Only observations, facts and professional opinion

Should be signed

Should be kept secure and not discussed with general staff

Could be required as court evidence



Sandymoor Ormiston Academy  
Safeguarding Leaflet 2020-2021



Our school is at the heart of our community. We ALL have a duty of care to protect children in our care. Child abuse can occur in any setting. The number of people actively seeking to harm or abuse children is small but our job is to put as many barriers in the way as possible.

Children stay safe:-

- ♦ By learning how to keep themselves safe
- ♦ Because their concerns are taken seriously
- ♦ Because adults operate clear child safety procedures and share them with parents
- ♦ Because they are well supervised by suitable and well qualified adults who fully understand their role.

What might you notice?

Physical signs

Behavioural signs and changes

Relationships

Play/written/art work

Make sure you communicate your thoughts as....SIGNS CAN BE

MISLEADING

Also bare in mind that some pupils may show no signs at all

**Staff need to be aware of and have read through 'Keeping Children Safe in Education' (DfE April 2014 + update September 2020 and Prevent Duty guidance**

## Types of abuse:-

### Physical abuse

People who physically abuse children or young people can be anyone who comes into contact with a child. They can be teachers, next door neighbours or a member of the family and could include siblings. A child can also be physically abused by another child. In fact, a person who abuses a child or young person is often closely related to them. It is very rarely a stranger. Some of these abusers may even have a history of physical abuse as a child.

- Giving a child harmful substances, such as drugs or alcohol

Where a parent / carer reports non-existent symptoms or an illness in a child, or deliberately causes an illness in a child

### Emotional abuse

- Not giving the child opportunities to express their views;
  - Deliberately silencing them;
  - Making fun of what they say or how they communicate;
  - Preventing the child from participating in normal social interaction;
- Serious bullying or the exploitation or corruption of children

### Domestic abuse

The effect of witnessing or being the subject of Domestic Violence on children must be considered as abuse. It can be categorised as physical and/or emotional abuse.

### Neglect

Abuse and neglect are forms of maltreatment of a child or young person. Someone may abuse or neglect a child or young person by:

- Inflicting harm;
- Failing to act to prevent harm;
- Failing to offer adequate care
- Fail to provide adequate supervision (including the use of inadequate care-givers);
- Fail to respond to a child's basic emotional needs;
- Fail to provide adequate food, clothing and shelter or access to appropriate medical care or treatment

### Child sexual exploitation (CSE)

Child Sexual Exploitation is an issue that is being faced across the country and there have been a number of very disturbing and high profile cases reported in the media. All victims have been of school age.

### Child criminal exploitation (CCE)

Child Criminal Exploitation (CCE) and Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) are forms of abuse and both occur where an individual or group takes advantage of an imbalance in power to coerce, manipulate or deceive a child into sexual or criminal activity. Whilst age may be the most obvious, this power imbalance can also be due to a range of other factors including gender, sexual identity, cognitive ability, physical strength, status, and access to economic or other resources. Sexual exploitation of children and young people under 18 involves exploitative situations, contexts and relationships where young people (or third party or persons), receive "something", (e.g food, accommodation, drugs, alcohol, cigarettes, affection, money) as a result of performing and/or others performing on them, sexual activities.

### Sexual abuse

Child protection legislation refers to children up to the age of 18.

- Sexual activities may involve physical contact or non-contact activities such as exposure to inappropriate images or information
  - Sexual abuse is not solely perpetrated by adult males, women can also commit acts of sexual abuse as can other children
  - In the majority of cases of sexual abuse, the sexual abuse itself doesn't start straight away
  - Perpetrators employ a process of subtle manipulation (often referred to as 'grooming') that entraps a child over a period of time into a secret relationship or 'friendship'
  - There is a risk of such 'friendships' being instigated online
- Please refer to the Online Safety module for further information

### Grooming

Children and young people can be groomed online, or by someone they have met - for example a family member, friend or professional. Groomers may be male, female or another young person. Many children and young people don't understand that they have been groomed, or that what has happened is abuse.

Grooming can take a number of stages. These can include:

- Targeting;
- Gaining trust;
- Identifying a vulnerability;
- Isolating;
- Sexualising the relationship; Maintaining control

### Peer on peer/Child on child abuse

Children can abuse other children. This is generally referred to as peer on peer abuse and can take many forms. This can include (but is not limited to): abuse within intimate partner relationships; bullying (including cyberbullying); sexual violence and sexual harassment; physical abuse such as hitting, kicking, shaking, biting, hair pulling, or otherwise causing physical harm; sexting and initiation/hazing type violence and rituals.

Peer on Peer abuse can also occur between two children of any age and sex. It can occur through a group of children sexually assaulting or sexually harassing a single child or group of children.

Children who are victims of sexual violence and sexual harassment will likely find the experience stressful and distressing. This will, in all likelihood, adversely affect their educational attainment. Sexual violence and sexual harassment exist on a continuum and may overlap, they can occur online and offline (both physically and verbally) and are never acceptable. It is important that all victims are taken seriously and offered appropriate support. Children who are lesbian, gay, bisexual or transgender (LGBT) can be targeted by their peers. In some cases, a child who is perceived by their peers to be LGBT (whether they are or not) can be just as vulnerable as children who identify as LGBT.

