

Bathwick St. Mary Church of England Primary School



Abridged Policy for Child Protection and Safeguarding

Document Control			
Policy name:	Abridged Policy for Child Protection and Safeguarding		
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Prepared by:	Headteacher and Staff		
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Our School Policies should be understood as part of the overall strategy of the School, and put into practice within the context of our Vision, Aims and Values as a Church of England School, with a particular focus on the promotion of equality.

This document has been prepared to assist all staff and other adults working with pupils understand the main provisions of the Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy ("the Policy"). It is not a substitute for reading the Policy in full and all adults working with children within the school are expected to adhere strictly to the terms of the Policy and the Code of Conduct.

All adults in the school community **must**:

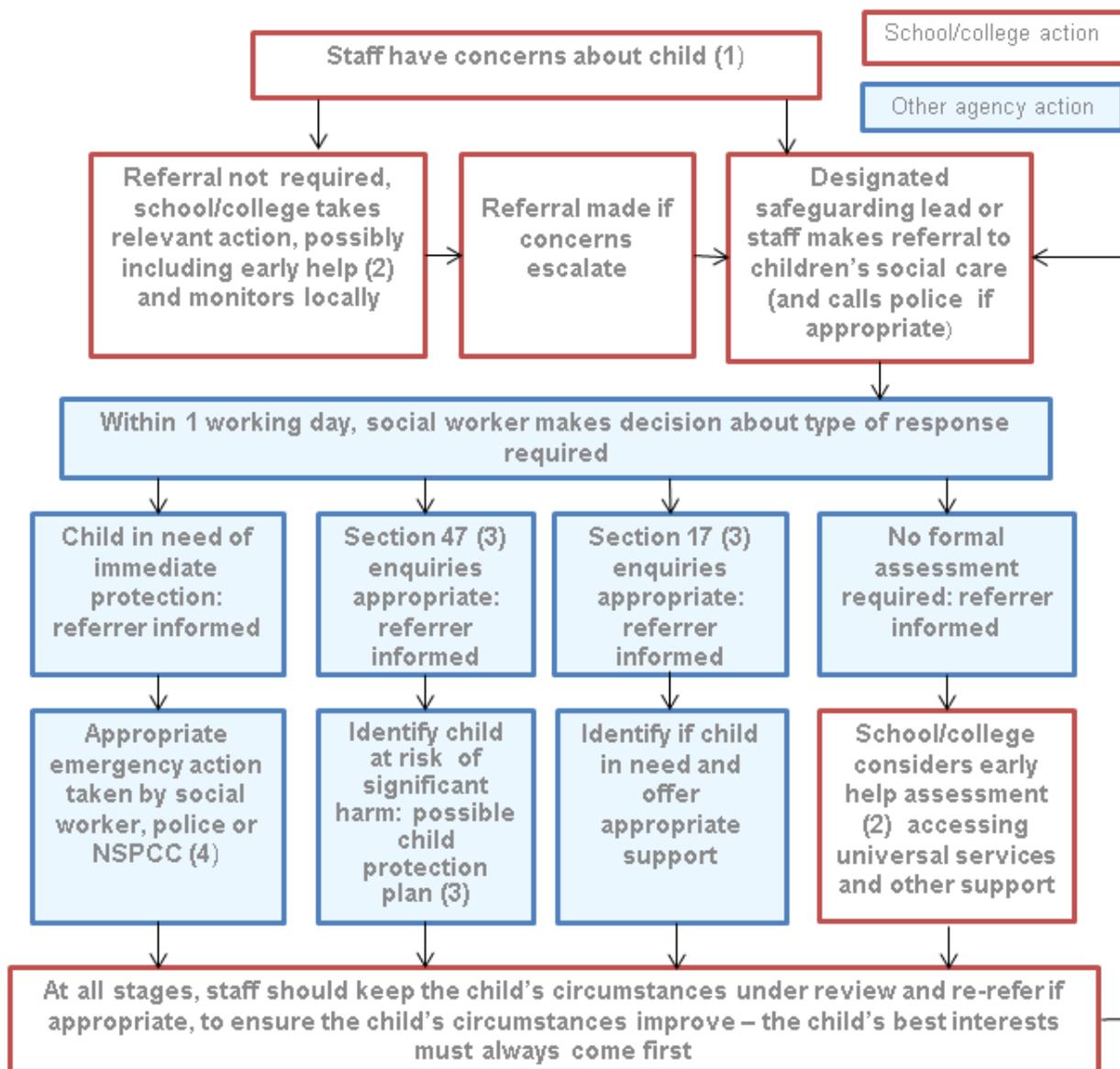
- Be aware of the four categories of abuse; physical, sexual, emotional and neglect.
- Have a knowledge of the possible signs of abuse, for example a significant change in behaviour, extreme anger or sadness, aggressive and attention-seeking behaviour, suspicious bruises with unsatisfactory explanations, lack of self-esteem, self-injury, depression, age inappropriate sexual behaviour.
- Have the attitude "it could happen here".
- Be aware that allegations can be made against staff members, volunteers and other children.
- Be prepared to listen effectively to children.
- Be prepared to treat any allegation or concern reported to them seriously, to keep an open mind and to report the matter immediately to the Designated Safeguarding Lead "DSL" (Headteacher Kevin Purkiss) or if the allegation / concern is against the DSL to report the matter to the Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead (Deputy Headteacher Claire Rigby) or one of the Co-Chair of Governors (Sally Lewis and Lucy Spedo Mirandola).
- Be prepared to raise concerns, where they exist, about the management of child protection, which may include the attitude or actions of colleagues (whistleblowing). If it becomes necessary to consult outside the school, they should speak in the first instance, to the Local Authority Designated Officer "LADO" (Mel Argles).
- Be prepared to comply with the requirements of record keeping by providing the DSL with written details of the concern / allegation (using the Child Welfare Concern Sheet).
- Be prepared to make a referral to children's social care directly and immediately if, at any point, there is a risk of immediate serious harm to a child. Anybody can make a referral.
- Be prepared to press for re-consideration if the child's situation does not appear to be improving. Concerns should always lead to help for the child at some point.

Where an allegation of abuse has been made or information has been provided that suggests abuse is likely the adult **must not**:

- Investigate or ask leading questions if seeking clarification.
- Make assumptions or offer alternative explanations.
- Promise confidentiality, but give assurance that the information will only be shared on a 'need to know' basis.

When working with pupils all adults should be aware their work and the responsibilities related to it place them in a position of trust. They must be aware of the safer working practices guidance contained in the Policy. In summary this means that they must not behave in a manner which would lead any reasonable person to question their suitability to work with children or act as a role model. All adults must work in an open and transparent way.

Actions where there are concerns about a child



I agree to adhere to these guidelines and understand if I fail to do so I will politely be dismissed from the volunteer role.

Signed:..... Date:.....