

May we give them the roots to grow and the wings to fly

How we Safeguard Children at Easington C of E Primary School

Safeguarding Team

- The Designated Safeguarding Team consists of four members of staff. Mr Appleby (Headteacher) is the designated safeguarding lead. Our Deputy Safeguarding Leads are Mr Churchill (Deputy Headteacher), Mrs Appleby (SENDCO) and Mrs Bowden-Stoker (School Business Manager). As a school, we actively promote the notion that safeguarding is everyone's responsibility, so all members of staff work closely together to safeguard the children at Easington C of E Primary School.

Safeguarding Governor

- Mrs Egan is the governor who has the overall responsibility for monitoring safeguarding. Mrs Egan is regularly updated on safeguarding procedures within school and receives safeguarding training both as part of her role as safeguarding governor. Mrs Egan attends termly Safeguarding Audits conducted by Clennell, as well as completing governor monitoring visits with a safeguarding focus. Safeguarding also forms part of the headteacher's termly report to governors and is also discussed at governor meetings.

Governor Meeting Feedback

- Safeguarding is regularly discussed during governor meetings and governors are also regularly updated during meetings via the head teacher's report. Governors are regularly updated on current open cases albeit anonymously.

Staff

- All staff complete the annual safeguarding refresher training at the beginning of the academic year. Staff complete a checklist to confirm they have read, understood and completed any relevant, up-to date training in relation to safeguarding and child protection.
- All staff have their own Safeguarding Folder which contains key information and documents in relation to safeguarding and child protection. Personal training records and certificates are also contained in the folders.

Team Meetings

- The safeguarding team holds team meetings when required to discuss cases/incidents where actions are discussed, and cases are reviewed when applicable. This allows the team to be fully informed about all safeguarding situations in school. At every meeting, all cases that are open to social services are discussed and reviewed. At every meeting, actions are reviewed, and additional actions are put in place if necessary. Any other identified issues around safeguarding are also discussed further at team meetings such as: identified training needs, feedback from meetings attended, feedback from training attended etc.

Single Central Record

- The Single Central Record is located in an online TEAMS folder and can be accessed by the Trust Central Team and school at any time. It is regularly updated to include all adults who work in

the school or who visit the school regularly. The record includes information relating to employment checks, DBS information etc. The SCR has also been scrutinised by the chair of governors and safeguarding lead governor and is also checked regularly by the Head Teacher.

CPD

- All members of staff undertake regular and relevant safeguarding training which includes prevent, online safety, safeguarding in education and Keeping children safe in education. Training is delivered in house and externally by Clennell Education Solutions. Training is also ongoing via PD days and staff meetings.

CPOMS

- CPOMS is used as a method for recording any concerns/incidents involving a child. Relevant members of staff are notified: including all members of the safeguarding team. CPOMS enables users to record incidents and keep a track of any subsequent actions. During safeguarding team meetings, weekly CPOMS incidents are reviewed. When reviewing the incidents, actions taken and decisions made are also reviewed.

Induction

- New members of staff are given an induction which includes a tour of the school with introductions to members of staff, notification of key members of staff relating to safeguarding, key policies and documentation are also distributed such as behaviour policy, code of conduct, safeguarding policy, KCSiE document and health and safety policy. The protocols for dealing with a safeguarding concern are also discussed as part of the induction which includes what to do if you have concerns about a child and if you have concerns about a member of staff.

Keeping Children Safe in Education (KCSiE)

- The school adopts all elements of the KCSiE document and policies and procedures are adapted each year in relation to changes in the document when it is reviewed annually. All members of staff are required to read the updated version of KCSiE when there has been an update. All policies and procedures are adapted to make sure we are compliant with the changes.

Recruitment

- The Head Teacher and Deputy Head Teacher are safer recruitment trained. Mrs Egan and Mrs Dodds (Vice-Chair) are also safer recruitment trained. The school has at least 3 members on the panel when taking part in the recruitment process.
- The recruitment process is in line with KCSiE and the safer recruitment process and online searches of candidates are part of the recruitment process. Candidates are informed that this will be completed prior to interview. Online searches are search engine only and not social media searches.
- All levels of recruitment include safeguarding questions. Safeguarding questions are devised to enable the candidate to draw upon real life experience of a safeguarding situation they have dealt with. We only opt for a theoretical question when they haven't yet had any personal experience.

Visitors

- All visitors must sign in via the school's electronic signing in system (sign in APP). A visitor badge is printed which is then placed into a lanyard (see below).
- All visitors must present some form of ID on arrival.
- Visitors who have provided evidence of a current DBS are given a green visitors lanyard and therefore do not need escorting around school.
- Visitors who have not provided evidence of a current DBS are given a red lanyard and are supervised at all times.

DBS and Section 128 Checks

- All members of staff have an enhanced DBS with Barring Check. In addition to this, members of the SLT, members of the governing body and the school business manager are also subject to a Section 128 check.
- DBS checks are carried out every 3 years.
- Staff are required to complete a 'Childcare Disqualification Self-Declaration Form' annually.

Drop off and home time

- Gates are unlocked at 8:45am and children enter school via two different entrances depending on their year group. Staff members are always visible on the yard to welcome children to school. Teachers or Teaching Assistants are in class ready to welcome the children and begin learning time. External gates are locked at 8:55am. Children then come through the main office if they are late and parents/carers must sign the late register.
- Children are dismissed at 3:20pm and exit the building via the classroom doors or through the main entrance. Gates open and parents file in and collect children. Children are handed over by members of staff.
- Y5 and Y6 children able to walk home alone with signed permission from a parent or carer. Parents are informed that permission to walk home alone can be revoked if a child is not behaving appropriately on the way home or are not keeping themselves safe when walking home.

Site Security

- All external doors are locked when children are in the building. Entry to the school is via the main entrance which has access control.

Home Visits

- If children are absent and we have not been given a reason for their absence, parents will be contacted. In the event of not being able to contact a parent or carer, a home visit is conducted. If we are not able to make contact and we have concerns, the attendance team at the Local Authority are contacted for further support.

Child Protection

- The Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy is on the school website. This is adopted from Clennell. Systems and measures that are put in place where a child is at significant risk or is experiencing harm. Social worker will be allocated to families in this case. Consent is sought for referral but can be overridden if children are at significant risk of harm. If staff have any child protection concerns in relation to a child.

Looked After Child (LAC) and Post looked after children (PLAC)

- A child or young person who is being looked after by the local authority is known as a 'looked-after' child. They might be living in a children's home, or with foster parents, or in some other family arrangement. Although the term used is 'looked-after child', this refers to any young person up to the age of 18. Post looked after children are those who are no longer looked after by a local authority in England and Wales because they are the subject of an adoption, special guardianship or child arrangements order.

Early Help

- Support put in place at an early stage for families where a child is at risk of not fulfilling their full potential. Early Help support worker put in place in this case. In school we use CPOMS to record any incidents of concern. Any concerns, no matter how small, are referred to the safeguarding team who review the incidents and make decisions on any actions/referrals. The safeguarding teamwork in conjunction with the local children's hub.

Filtering and Monitoring

- Filtering and Monitoring are the systems that are in place to protect children from inappropriate content online within school. The computing lead and safeguarding team work closely with OneIT to ensure that online content is not over filtered to promote a positive online experience. Securly is checked regularly, and reports are printed and stored in the Safeguarding Folder.

Filtering – Securly

- Virus Protection and malicious content protection.

Monitoring – Securly

- This system monitors what children are accessing or attempting to access online.

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Current school context:

- 0 children are currently under Child Protection
- 1 child is currently under a social worker
- 1 family is currently under Early Help
- 5 children are PLAC
- 2 children are LAC

Summary of Changes in Keeping Children Safe in Education (KCSIE) 2024

The 2024 edition of Keeping Children Safe in Education (KCSIE) introduces several key updates, effective from September 1, 2024:

Definition of Safeguarding: The definition has been revised to align with "Working Together to Safeguard Children 2023," emphasising early intervention, protection from harm, and promoting children's welfare.

Exploitation: The term "exploitation" has been added to the safeguarding definition. The phrase "abuse and neglect" is now replaced with "abuse, neglect, and exploitation."

Early Help: Enhanced guidance on identifying when children may need early help and providing timely support has been included.

Data Protection: School staff, governors, and trustees are advised to refer to the DfE Data Protection guidance for schools to better understand data protection requirements.

Domestic Abuse: Domestic abuse is now explicitly mentioned as a safeguarding concern. The guidance covers various forms of domestic abuse—psychological, physical, sexual, financial, and emotional—and its impact on children.

Additional Updates: The document features updated terminology, a new section on alternative provision, and specific guidance on supporting children who are lesbian, gay, bisexual, or gender-questioning.

Children and the court system: In Annex B, links to two age-appropriate guides have been included to support children who are required to give evidence in court.

Preventing radicalisation: In Annex B, a disclaimer has been added to outline that this section is still under review following the new definition of extremism released on 14th March 2024. Additional information is also provided to state that possible indicators of radicalisation should be taken into consideration alongside other factors or contexts.

Wording and minor definition changes: Several wording and minor definition changes occur in KCSIE 2024, including:

- Headings have been amended across KCSIE to reflect that pupils may experience "abuse, neglect and exploitation" rather than solely "abuse and neglect". (Paragraph 19)
- The definition of abuse has been expanded slightly to emphasise that witnessing ill treatment of others is harmful to children. The paragraph makes references to the relevance of this in all forms of domestic abuse, including where children "see, hear or experience its effects". (Paragraph 24)
- The term "deliberately missing education" has been replaced with "unexplainable and/or persistent absences from education". (Paragraph 31)

Key Contact Information

- First Contact – Durham - Tel – 03000 26 79 79
- Email - firstcontact@durham.gov.uk
- website - [Durham Schools Portal - Safeguarding & Early Help - Safeguarding Home](#)

Local Authority Designated Officer (LADO):

- The LADO is responsible for managing allegations against adults who work with children. This involves working with police, children's social care, employers and other involved professionals. The LADO does not conduct investigations directly, but rather oversees and directs them to ensure thoroughness, timeliness and fairness. The LADO must be contacted within one working day of an allegation/concern being raised.

LADO Tel - 03000 268835

Complaints Protocol:

Concerns about a member of staff

- Speak to the headteacher. For confidentiality purposes, you do not speak to a line manager or colleague about your concern.

Concerns about the Headteacher

- Contact the chair of Governors. The chair of governors contact information is available from reception.

