SALISBURY CATHEDRAL SCHOOL
7a Safeguarding Policy

Salisbury Cathedral School fully recognises its responsibilities for safeguarding and child protection.

KEY SAFEGUARDING PERSONNEL			
Role	**Name**	**Tel.**	**Email**
Head	**Mrs Sally Moulton**	**01722 555305**	**headsec@salisburycathedralschool.com**
Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL)	**Mr Tom Halliday**	**01722 555300**	**halliday.t@salisburycathedralschool.com**
Deputy DSL (DDSL) **Deputy DSL** **Deputy DSL (EYFS)** **Boarding DDSL**	**Mr James Hunt** **Mr Luke Green** **Mr Jack Stredwick**	**01722 555300** **01722 555300** **01722 555300**	**hunt.j@salisburycathedralschool.com** **green.l@salisburycathedralschool.com** **stredwick.j@salisburycathedralschool.com**
Nominated Governor for Safeguarding	**Canon Anna Macham**	**01722 555128**	**macham.a@scsict.net**
Chair of Governors	**Mr James Clements**	**01722 555300**	**clements.j@scsict.net**
Designated Teacher for Looked After Children	**Mr Tom Halliday**	**01722 555300**	**halliday.t@salisburycathedralschool.com**
Mental Health Lead	**Mr Tom Halliday**	**01722 555300**	**halliday.t@salisburycathedralschool.com**
The key safeguarding responsibilities within each of the roles above are set out in Keeping Children Safe in Education (2025)			

Local Authority Designated Officer	0300 456 0108
Children's Social Care referrals: Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH): Out of hours:	0300 456 0108 0300 456 0100

If you believe a child is **at immediate risk** of significant harm or injury, you **must** call the police on 999.

Legal framework

• The Children Act – s47, s17

• Disqualification Under the Childcare Act 2006 amended 2018

• Education Act 2002 (s175)

• Independent Schools Standards Regulations 2010 as amended 2015

• The Protection of Children Act 1999

• Data Protection Act 2018

• GDPR 2018

• The Education (Prohibition from Teaching or Working with Children) Regulations 2003.

• The Children Act 2004

• The Children and Families Act 2014

• The Local Safeguarding Children Boards Regulations 2006 as amended 2010

• The Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015

• Human Right Act 1998

• Equality Act 2010 (s81-88)

• Education (Independent School Standards) Regulations 2014

DfE guidance that the school has regard to

- Keeping children safe in education 2025 - GOV.UK
- Review of sexual abuse in schools and colleges June 2021
- Relationships Education, Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) and Health Education July 2025
- Disqualification under the Childcare Act 2006 (updated 2018)
- Check a Teacher's Record June 2024
- Individuals Prohibited from Managing or Governing Schools Nov 2022
- What to do if you're worried a child is being abused March 2015
- Criminal exploitation of children and vulnerable adults: county lines
- Working together to safeguard children - GOV.UK
- Prevent duty guidance: England and Wales (2023) - GOV.UK
- Children missing education August 2024
- Working Together to Improve Attendance August 2024
- Preventing and tackling bullying - Advice for headteachers, staff and governing bodies July 2017
- Cyberbullying: Advice for headteachers and school staff
- Mental health and behaviour in schools November 2018
- Counselling in schools: a blueprint for the future February 2016
- Sharing nudes and semi-nudes: advice for education settings working with children and young people
- Promoting children and young people's emotional health and wellbeing

- DfE non statutory information sharing advice for practitioners providing safeguarding services for children, young people and parent
- https://www.gov.uk/guidance/data-protection-in-schools
- https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/teachers-standards
- https://www.gov.uk/guidance/meeting-digital-and-technology-standards-in-schools-and-colleges/filtering-and-monitoring-standards-for-schools-and-colleges
- Boarding schools: national minimum standards - GOV.UK

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Introduction

Salisbury Cathedral School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children. We will fulfil our local and national responsibilities as laid out in the following key documents:

- Working Together to Safeguard Children (2023)
- Keeping Children Safe in Education (2025)
- The procedures of the Safeguarding Vulnerable People Partnership (formerly WSCB)
- Information sharing - Advice for practitioners providing safeguarding services to children, young people, parents and carers (2024)

The aim of this policy is to ensure:

- All our pupils are safe and protected from harm.
- Safeguarding procedures are in place to help pupils to feel safe and learn to stay safe.
- Adults in the school community are aware of the expected behaviours and the school's legal responsibilities in relation to safeguarding and child protection.

Scope

Safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children is defined as:
• Providing help and support to meet the needs of children as soon as problems emerge
• protecting children from maltreatment, whether that is within or outside the home, including online
• preventing the impairment of children's mental and physical health or development
• ensuring that children grow up in circumstances consistent with the provision of safe and effective care
• taking action to enable all children to have the best outcomes.

The term 'safeguarding children' covers a range of measures including child protection procedures. It encompasses a whole-school preventative approach to keeping children safe, including online, that incorporates pupil health and safety; school behaviour management and preventing child-on-child abuse; supporting pupils with medical conditions; Relationships, Sex and Health (RSHE) education and Personal, Social, Health and Economic (PSHE) education; providing first aid and site security.

Consequently, this policy is consistent with all other policies adopted by the Governors and should be read alongside the following policies relevant to the safety and welfare of our pupils. Please contact the School Reception should you require sight of any of the policies detailed below:

● SCS Recruitment Policy ● SCS Code of Conduct (Staff Behaviour Policy) ● SCS Physical Intervention and Restraint Policy ● SCS Complaints Policy ● SCS Missing Child Policy ● SCS Anti-Bullying Policy ● SCS Use of Mobile Devices in EYFS ● SCS Boarding Policy ● SCS Low Level Concerns Policy	● Late Collection of Children ● SCS Promoting Positive Behaviour Policy ● SCS Suspensions and Exclusions Policy ● SCS Whistleblowing Policy ● SCS Staff/Work Experience Induction Procedure ● SCS Social Media Policy ● SCS Curriculum Policy	● SCS Health and Safety Policy ● SCS Equal Opportunities Policy ● SCS PSHE Policy (including Relationships, Sex and Health Education) ● SCS Online and Network policy ● SCS Photography Policy ● SCS SEND Policy

This policy applies to all staff in our school. For the purposes of this policy:

- **Staff** refers to all those working for or on behalf of the school, full time or part time, in a paid or regular voluntary capacity.
- **A volunteer** is a person who performs an activity that involves spending time, unpaid in school (except for approved expenses).
- **Parent** refers to birth parents and other adults who are in a parenting role, for example step-parents, foster carers and adoptive parents.
- **Child** refers to all children on our school roll and any child under the age of 18 who comes into contact with our school. This includes unborn babies.

Any safeguarding concerns or disclosures of abuse relating to a child at school, outside of school and online are within the scope of this policy.

Expectations

The school expects that all staff are:

- familiar with this safeguarding policy and have an opportunity to contribute to its review
- alert to signs and indicators of possible abuse and wider safeguarding issues
- aware of the importance of professional curiosity
- able to record and report concerns as set out in this policy
- able to deal with a disclosure of abuse from a child
- involved in the implementation of individual education programmes, integrated support plans, child in need plans and inter-agency child protection plans as required.

In addition, all staff have read and understood Part 1 or Annex A of the latest version of Keeping Children Safe in Education (KCSiE 2025). School leaders and staff who work directly with children have also read Annex B and Part 5.

Governors

As key strategic decision makers and vision setters for the school, the Governors will make sure that our policies and procedures are in line with national and local safeguarding requirements. Governors will work with the senior leaders to make sure the following safeguarding essentials are in place:

Training/Teaching	Policy/Procedures	Staffing
Whole school approach to broad and balanced curriculum embedding safeguarding teaching D/DSL training Designated teacher training KCSiE Part 1 or Annex A (and Annex B and Part 5 for staff working directly with children) Staff training, including regular safeguarding updates Children taught about keeping safe online Online safety training for staff Preventing radicalisation Teaching staff confidence to deliver RSHE/PSHE to all pupils Annual review of online safety arrangements	Child-on-child abuse Pupil voice Online safety Whistleblowing Staff Behaviour Policy (for safer working practice), incl. low-level concerns about staff conduct Early help Mental Health Multi-agency working Children missing out on education (CMOE) and Children Missing Education (CME) Children with SEND and a physical health issue Reporting abuse, incl. dealing with a child at immediate risk / SVPP procedures Honour based abuse (HBA) Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) Behaviour policy Staff contribution to policy Safeguarding policy review	Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) who is a senior member of the leadership team. Deputy Designated Safeguarding Leads (DDSL) Designated teacher for children looked-after (even if there are no LAC on roll) Mental Health Lead

Concerns and allegations management

Our Chair of Governors is responsible for liaising with the Local Authority Designated Officer for Allegations (LADO) and other partner agencies in the event of an allegation of abuse being made against the Head.
See also ‘Managing concerns and allegations against staff’.

Audit

The nominated governor (NG) for safeguarding collaborates with the Head and the D/DSL to complete an annual safeguarding audit return to the local authority.

The role of the Nominated Governor is outlined in Appendix 6.

Safer Recruitment

Our Governors monitor the school's safer recruitment practice, including the Single Central Record.

Monitoring and review

The Head ensures that the policies and procedures, adopted by the governing body (particularly those concerning referrals of cases of suspected abuse and neglect), are understood, and followed by all staff and should be easily understood by staff, children and parents.

Governors ensure that safeguarding is an agenda item for every full governing body meeting.

The Head ensures that safeguarding is an agenda item for every staff meeting.

This policy is reviewed annually or earlier as required by changes to legislation or statutory guidance.

The Nominated Governor meets the DSL every half term (six times a year) to monitor the effectiveness of this policy.

Safeguarding information for pupils

Pupils in our school are able to talk to a range of different adults if they have any concerns or worries. These include:

- Their form tutor
- DSL/DDSL
- The Head
- The Deputy Head
- The School Nurse or a member of the matronal team
- Boarding staff
- The school's independent listener
- The school chaplain
- The chorister tutor
- Any other member of staff.

This information is provided for children in every classroom and is in the Prep Diary which is given to all pupils in Year 3 and above.

Mandatory procedures – Staff and adults at school

Safer recruitment

All staff are subject to safer recruitment processes and checks and we follow the guidance set out in Part 3 of KCSiE (2025).

At Salisbury Cathedral School, we scrutinise all applications for paid or voluntary posts. We undertake interviews and make appropriate checks through the Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS). We maintain a single central record (SCR) of the essential checks as set out in KCSiE, that have been carried out and certificates obtained. The SCR applies to:

- all staff (including supply staff, and teacher trainees on salaried routes) who work at the school.
- all Governors.

See also Training.

Staff Behaviour Policy (for safer working practice)

Salisbury Cathedral School is committed to positive academic, social and emotional outcomes for our pupils underpinned by a strong safeguarding ethos. We are equally committed to the protection and welfare of our staff, who are expected to adhere to the highest standards of professional behaviour.

The Staff Behaviour Policy sets out behaviours that should be avoided as well as those that constitute safe practice and supports our commitment to safeguarding children.

Teaching staff are, additionally, expected to act within the guidance of the 'personal and professional conduct' section of the Teachers' Standards.

Identifying the signs

All staff are trained to know how to recognise and be alert to the signs of neglect and abuse and wider safeguarding issues, including but not limited to child-on-child sexual violence and harassment, child-on-child abuse and exploitation, 'all' risks outside of the home and within the local area including online. Definitions of abuse, set out in 'What to do if you're worried a child is being abused - Advice for practitioners' (2015), 'Keeping Children Safe in Education' (2025) along with notes from safeguarding training, are important reference documents for all staff. Every member of staff is provided with a copy of Part 1 or Annex A of KCSiE which they are required to read, and which also includes supporting guidance about several specific safeguarding issues. Staff who work directly with children are also required to read Annex B and Part 5 of KCSiE (2025).

All staff should be aware that children may not feel ready or know how to tell someone that they are being abused, exploited, or neglected, and/or they may not recognise their experiences as harmful. For example, children may feel embarrassed, humiliated, or are being threatened. This could be due to their vulnerability, disability and/or sexual orientation or language barriers. This should not prevent staff from having a professional curiosity and speaking to the designated safeguarding lead (DSL) if they have concerns about a child. It is also important that staff determine how best to build trusted relationships with children and young people which facilitate communication.

Responding to concerns/disclosures of abuse

Flowcharts provided by the SVPP that set out the required procedure for staff to follow when they have a safeguarding concern about a child are displayed in the staffroom and adult cloakrooms for easy reference. These are updated inline with changes to guidance or policy.

Staff adhere to the following safeguarding requirements when concerned about abuse or when responding to a disclosure of abuse.

Do:

Staff understand that they should:

- Create a safe environment by offering the child a private and safe place if possible.
- Stay calm and reassure the child; stress that he/she is not to blame.
- Tell the child that they know how difficult it must have been to confide in another adult.
- Listen carefully and tell the child what they are going to do next.
- Use TED ('tell me', 'explain', 'describe') and/or mirroring strategy.
- Tell only the Designated or Deputy Safeguarding Leads.
- Record in detail without delay, using Safeguard Software; use the child's own words where possible.

Don't:

Staff understand that they must NOT:

- Take photographs of any injuries.
- Postpone or delay the opportunity for the child to talk.
- Take notes while the child is speaking or ask the child to write an account.
- Try to investigate the allegation.
- Promise confidentiality eg say they will keep 'the secret'.
- Approach or inform the alleged abuser.

All staff record any concern about or disclosure by a pupil of abuse or neglect and report this to the D/DSL using the standard form. It is the responsibility of each adult in school to ensure that the D/DSL receives the record of concern without delay. In the absence of the D/DSL, staff members know to speak directly to the MASH. In some circumstances, the D/DSL or member of staff seeks advice by ringing the MASH for advice.

The D/DSL will liaise with safeguarding partners and work with other agencies in line with Working Together (2023) and will refer to National Police Chief's Council guidance for schools to understand when they should consider calling the police.

The D/DSL will provide as much information as possible as part of the referral process. This will allow any assessment to consider all the available evidence and enable a contextual approach to address such harm.

During term time, the DSL and/or a DDSL is always available during school hours for staff to discuss any safeguarding concerns.

The voice of the child is central to our safeguarding practice and pupils are encouraged to express and have their views given due weight in all matters affecting them.

Online safety

Online safety is considered as part of our whole school safeguarding approach and wider staff training and curriculum planning. Online safety is a running and interrelated theme which is reflected in our policies and procedures. Children are taught about safeguarding, including online safety. In the 4 areas of risk under the "Online Safety" heading (content, contact, conduct and commerce), the "content" section has been expanded to include misinformation, disinformation (including fake news) and conspiracy theories. This reflects the growing risk these issues pose. They are now considered significant safeguarding harms and are addressed by relevant digital safeguarding provision, policy and education to all relevant community members (parents, staff, governors and students).

A personalised or contextualised approach is taken for more vulnerable children, victims of abuse and some children with SEND.

Salisbury Cathedral School acknowledges the fact many children have unlimited and unrestricted access to the internet via mobile phone networks, the school will follow its policy on the use of mobile and smart technology in school to safeguard children and will follow child-on-child abuse procedures when mobile phones are used by a child whilst in school to sexually harass their peers via their mobile and smart technology, share indecent images: consensually and non-consensually (often via large chat groups), and view and share pornography and other harmful content.

Children at SCS are not allowed their mobile phones and these are handed in to reception as children arrive at school and retrieved at the end of the day.

Our school internet is filtered and all school devices are monitored by the DSL and DDSLs. A company called School Care run the filtering and monitoring of the internet. They operate a check of the system each Monday morning and the safeguarding team in school also operate a weekly check via a site called www.testfiltering.com

Managing concerns and allegations against staff (including supply teachers, volunteers and contractors)

Salisbury Cathedral School follows the procedure set out by the SVPP 'Allegations against adults' flowchart which is displayed in the staffroom and adult cloakrooms for easy reference and is shown in Appendix 2.

Where anyone in the school has a concern about the behaviour of an adult (including online behaviour) who works or volunteers at the school, including supply staff and contractors, they must immediately consult the Head who will refer to the Local Authority Designated Officer (LADO).

Any concern or allegation against the Head will be reported to the Chair of Governors without informing the Head.

All staff must remember that the welfare of a child is paramount and must not delay raising concerns for fear a report could jeopardise their colleague's career. Salisbury Cathedral School promotes an open and transparent culture in which all concerns about adults working in or on behalf of the school (including supply teachers, volunteers and contractors) are dealt with promptly and appropriately.

Any allegation of abuse will be dealt with in a fair and consistent way that provides effective protection for the child and at the same time supports the person who is the subject of the allegation.

In addition to the concern/allegation management process, the school's DSL will also refer suspected abuse to the MASH as described in 'responding to a concern.'

All members of staff and volunteers have read and signed to confirm they have understood the school's Staff Behaviour Policy (for safer working practice), all supply staff and contractors are made aware of expectations of their behaviour.

Concerns and allegations reported relating to supply staff and contractors will be notified to their employers for investigation and potential referral to LADO as soon as possible.

Salisbury Cathedral School will appoint a 'case manager' to lead any investigation where the reported allegation does not meet the allegations threshold to consider a referral to the LADO. This is the Head or where the Head is the subject of an allegation, the Chair of Governors.

Staff should make a referral where a conflict of interest might exist if reporting the matter to the Head (for example by making a referral to the LADO directly or the Chair of governors)

If a person is dismissed/removed for unsuitability to work with children, the school will refer this to the DBS (Disclosure and Barring Service).

If a person is dismissed/removed for professional misconduct, this will be referred to the TRA (Teaching Regulation Agency).

Managing low-level concerns about adults

Salisbury Cathedral School operates a 'low-level' concerns policy in accordance with KCSIE. 'Low-level' refers to behaviour that is: inconsistent with expectations set out in the Staff Behaviour Policy, including inappropriate conduct outside of work, and/or does not meet the allegations threshold, or is otherwise not considered serious enough to consider a referral to the LADO.

All low-level concerns will be reported to the Head; low-level concerns about the Head will be reported to the Chair of Governors.

Salisbury Cathedral School will:

- ensure all staff are clear about what appropriate behaviour is (as set out in the Staff Behaviour Policy), and are confident in distinguishing expected and appropriate behaviour from concerning, problematic or inappropriate behaviour, in themselves and others;
- empower staff to share any low-level safeguarding concerns;
- provide a responsive, sensitive and proportionate handling of such concerns when they are raised, for both the child/ren and the adult; and,
- respond to reports of low-level concerns in accordance with our HR conduct procedures by addressing unprofessional behaviour and support the individual to correct it at an early stage. If the concern has been raised via a third party, the Head will collect as much evidence as possible by speaking:

    - directly to the person who raised the concern, unless it has been raised anonymously;
    - to the individual involved and any witnesses.

Reporting low-level concerns helps to create and embed a culture of openness, trust and transparency in which the school's values and expected behaviour are constantly lived, monitored and reinforced by all Staff.

Staff are encouraged to self-refer where they have found themselves in a situation which could be misinterpreted, might appear compromising to others, and/or on reflection they believe they have behaved in such a way that they consider falls below the expected professional standards.

All low-level concerns will be recorded in writing, retained and reviewed to help recognise any weakness in the school safeguarding system so that potential patterns of concerning, problematic or inappropriate behaviour can be identified.

Whistleblowing

In accordance with our school's whistleblowing policy and procedures all staff and pupils can raise concerns about poor or unsafe practice and potential failures in the school safeguarding regime. Our whistleblowing procedures, which are also reflected in staff training and our Staff Behaviour Policy, and shared with pupils are in place for such concerns to be raised with the Head. Systems are in place and well promoted so that children can confidently report concerns or abuse, knowing their concerns will be treated seriously, and knowing they can safely express their views and give feedback.

If a staff member feels unable to raise an issue with the Head or feels that their genuine concerns are not being addressed, other whistleblowing channels are open to them:

- The NSPCC whistleblowing helpline. Staff can call: 0800 028 0285 from 08:00 to 20:00, Monday to Friday, 09:00-18:00 at the weekend or email help@nspcc.org.uk.
- The Chair of Governors

Escalation of concerns

Effective working together depends on an open approach and honest relationships between colleagues and between agencies.

Staff must be confident and able to professionally disagree and challenge decision-making as an entirely legitimate activity; a part of our professional responsibility to promote the best safeguarding practice. Staff are encouraged to press for reconsideration if they believe a decision to act/not act in response to a concern raised about a child is wrong. In such cases the SVPP Case Resolution Protocol is used if necessary.

If we are on the receiving end of a professional challenge, we see this as an opportunity to reflect on our decision making.

Record keeping and information sharing

The school:

- liaises with partner organisations to ensure any safeguarding records for learners are shared on transition and within 5 days for an in-year transfer or within the first 5 days of the start of a new term:
    - o by the setting/school/organisation previously attended by the child.
    - o by our DSL when the child leaves our school.

    For any child dual-registered with another school/setting/organisation, the school continues to be responsible for the safeguarding of the placed pupil thus the DSL will regularly liaise with the DSL at that base to ensure information is shared in the child's best interests. This includes contextual safeguarding information about relationships that young people form in their neighbourhoods, schools and online to enable assessment and intervention to happen within these extra-familial contexts.
- keeps clear and comprehensive records of all pupil safeguarding and child protection concerns using our concern system within Safeguard Software, with a body map, including how the concern was followed up and resolved as well as a note of any action taken, decisions reached and the outcome.
- ensures all pupil safeguarding and child protection records are kept securely in a locked location.
- ensures the records incorporate the wishes and views of the pupil.

The D/DSL acts in accordance with Information Sharing – Department for Education (DfE) (2024) and in line with the Wiltshire Council Record Keeping Guidance which includes details about file retention. Information about pupils at risk of harm is shared with members of staff in keeping with the seven golden rules to sharing information in the DfE guidance.

We are committed to work in partnership with parents and carers. In most situations, we will discuss initial concerns with them. However, the D/DSL will not share information where there are concerns that if so doing would:

- place a child at increased risk of significant harm
- place an adult at increased risk of serious harm
- prejudice the prevention, detection or prosecution of a serious crime
- lead to unjustified delay in making enquiries about allegations of significant harm to a child, or serious harm to an adult.

When we become aware that a child is being privately fostered, we remind the carer/parent of their legal duty to notify Wiltshire Children's Social Care. We follow this up by contacting Children's Social Care directly.

Visitors

All visitors to both the school site and to the Boarding House complete a signing in/out process, wear a school ID badge and are provided with key safeguarding information including the contact details of safeguarding personnel in school.

Scheduled visitors in a professional role (eg fire officer, police, NSPCC staff) are asked to provide evidence of their role and employment details (usually an identity badge) upon arrival at school. Careful consideration is given to the suitability of any external organisations. School complete an assessment of the education value, the age appropriateness of what is going to be delivered by the scheduled visitor, prior to booking a visit.

If the visit is unscheduled and the visitor is unknown to the school, we will contact the relevant organisation to verify the individual's identity, if necessary. Staff are trained to challenge anyone on site that they do not recognise.

Site safety

Risk assessments are undertaken and maintained in accordance with the school's health and safety policy.

Off site visits

We carry out a risk assessment prior to any off-site visit and designate the specific roles and responsibilities of each adult, whether employed or volunteers.

Where there are safeguarding concerns or allegations that happen offsite, staff will follow the procedures described above and in the SVPP flowcharts as appropriate. A copy of the flowcharts is taken on off-site visits for reference.

Mandatory procedures – Supporting children

A culture of listening to children

We have a whole school approach to listening to children and have systems in place which create an environment where children feel safe to share their concerns and worries and know they will be taken seriously. These systems operate with the best interests of the child at their heart.

Children can safely express their views and give feedback. Members of the school's safeguarding team are clearly identifiable to our pupils via posters within school and the Boarding House.

Curriculum – teaching about safeguarding

Our pupils access a broad and balanced curriculum (age and stage of development appropriate) that promotes their spiritual, moral, cultural, mental and physical development, and prepares them for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of life.

We provide opportunities for pupils to develop skills, concepts, attitudes and knowledge that promote their safety, and well-being. The PSHE and citizenship curriculum, incorporating Relationships, Sex and Health (RSHE) education specifically includes the following objectives:

- Developing pupil self-esteem and communication skills
- Developing strategies for self-protection including online safety
- Developing a sense of the boundaries between appropriate and inappropriate behaviour in adults and within peer relationships (positive relationships and consent)

Examples of topics:

- healthy and respectful relationships
- boundaries and consent
- stereotyping, prejudice and equality
- body confidence and self-esteem
- how to recognise an abusive relationship, including coercive and controlling behaviour
- the concepts of, and laws relating to sexual consent, sexual exploitation, abuse, grooming, coercion, harassment, rape, domestic abuse, so called honour-based violence such as forced marriage and FGM, and how to access support, and
- what constitutes sexual harassment and sexual violence and why these are always unacceptable.

Remote learning

If the school is required to change the way provision to children is offered due to exceptional circumstances eg during a pandemic lockdown, self-isolation, staff responsibilities to remain alert to the signs and risks of abuse to children will continue to apply. In such circumstances:

The DSL will:

- work closely with social care and partner agencies to support children in these circumstances and to identify children who may be at risk for the first time and/or benefit from additional support
- use specific local and national guidance about safeguarding in such circumstances to inform practice eg UK Safer internet centre guidance, DfE safeguarding and remote education and will ensure staff, children, and families are provided with written:

    - amended DSL arrangements as required (names, location and contact details)
    - temporary changes to procedures for working with children eg online.
    - amended procedures for reporting concerns
    - safeguarding training arrangements

o timescales for such changes so that all children, families and staff understand when such arrangements will end, and arrangements revert to those in place prior to the events leading to the need for the temporary changes.

We will ensure the curriculum we offer during such circumstances, continues to promote learners' spiritual, moral, cultural, mental and physical development.

Early help

At Salisbury Cathedral School, all our staff can identify children who may benefit from early help as a problem emerges and discuss this with the D/DSL.

The D/DSL uses:

- The Digital Assessment and Referral Tool as appropriate as part of a holistic assessment of the child's needs.
- The Multi-Agency Thresholds guidance for Safeguarding Children on the Safeguarding Vulnerable People Partnership (SVPP) website about suitable action to take when a pupil has been identified as making inadequate progress or having an unmet need.
- Liaises with Wiltshire SEND service
- Various resources to identify and respond to harmful sexual behaviour

Children with Special Education Needs and Disabilities (SEND) or physical health issues

Pupils with additional needs or certain health conditions face an increased risk of abuse and neglect. Staff take extra care to correctly interpret apparent signs of abuse or neglect. We never assume that behaviour, mood or injury relates to the pupil's additional needs without further exploration. Staff understand that additional challenges can exist when recognising abuse and neglect in pupils with SEND, including communication barriers. Staff recognise that children with SEND are also at a higher risk of peer group isolation and can be disproportionately affected by bullying (including prejudice-based bullying).

To address those additional challenges, extra pastoral support is considered for children with SEND or physical health issues and they are also encouraged to discuss their concerns. The D/DSL works with the Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator (SENCo) to identify pupils with additional communication needs and whenever possible, these pupils are given the chance to express themselves to a member of staff with appropriate communication skills.

The use of 'reasonable force' in school

There are circumstances when it is appropriate for staff to use reasonable force to safeguard children. The term 'reasonable force' covers the broad range of actions used by staff that involve a degree of physical contact to control or restrain children. This can range from guiding a child to safety by the arm, to more extreme circumstances such as breaking up a fight or where a young person needs to be restrained to prevent violence or injury. 'Reasonable' in these circumstances means 'using no more force than is needed'. The use of force may involve either passive physical contact, such as standing between pupils or blocking a pupil's path, or active physical contact such as leading a pupil by the arm out of the classroom. Salisbury Cathedral School follows DfE advice for schools and is available at Use of Reasonable Force in Schools.

All staff will follow our behaviour policy and all pupils are encouraged to follow these expectations to reduce the need for the need for 'use of reasonable force.' Staff will work in collaboration with pupils and

parents/carers to plan positive, proactive behaviour support which may include support plans, referral to specialist agencies and agreeing actions to reduce the occurrence of challenging behaviour.

Mandatory procedures – Specific forms of abuse and safeguarding issues

Child-on-child abuse

All children have a right to attend school and learn in a safe environment. All child-on-child abuse is unacceptable and will be taken seriously.

In addition, we have a zero-tolerance approach and will respond to all reports and concerns of child-on-child sexual violence and sexual harassment, including those that have happened outside of the school, and/or online.

Staff recognise that while both boys and girls can abuse their peers, it is more likely that girls will be victims and boys instigators of such abuse. Both boys and girls can be victims of sexism, misogyny, and toxic masculinity. Children who are LGBTQ+ may be targeted by other children. Child-on-child abuse is not tolerated, passed off as "banter" or seen as "part of growing up". The different forms of child-on-child abuse is likely to include, but not limited to:

- bullying (including cyber bullying, prejudice-based and discriminatory bullying)
- abuse in intimate personal relationships between peers
- physical abuse which can include hitting, kicking, shaking, biting, hair pulling or otherwise causing physical harm
- 'upskirting' or any picture taken under a person's clothing without their permission or them knowing to obtain sexual gratification or cause humiliation, distress or alarm.
- causing someone to engage in sexual activity without consent
- initiation/hazing type violence and rituals
- consensual and non-consensual sharing of nudes and semi-nude images and/or videos (also known as sexting)
- sexual violence and sexual harassment between children, as defined by Sexual offences act 2003 which considers rape, assault by penetration and sexual assault, all types of sexual violence. Sexual violence and sexual harassment can be between two children, or a group of children and can occur online and offline.

Consequently, child-on-child abuse is dealt with as a safeguarding issue, recorded as such and not managed through the systems set out in the school behaviour policy.

Any pupil who may have been victimised and/or displayed such harmful behaviours, along with any other child affected by child on child abuse, will be supported through the school's pastoral system and the support will be regularly monitored and reviewed.

We will address inappropriate behaviour (even if it appears to be relatively innocuous) as this can be an important intervention that may help prevent problematic, abusive and/or violent behaviour in the future.

We acknowledge that even if there are no reported cases of child-on-child abuse, such abuse may still be taking place and is simply not being reported. Staff maintain an attitude of 'it could happen here' where safeguarding is concerned.

We minimise the risk of child-on-child abuse through the following actions:

- Providing a relevant, effective curriculum that helps children to develop their understanding of acceptable behaviours, healthy relationships and keeping themselves safe. The curriculum is updated to reflect changes in legislation, and the mandatory teaching of Relationships, Sex Education and Health Education.
- Providing established/publicised systems for pupils to raise concerns with staff, knowing they will be listened to, supported and valued, and that the issues they raise will be taken seriously. All pupils are encouraged to tell a member of staff at once if they know that bullying is taking place.
- Offering other elements such as assemblies, projects, drama, stories, literature and discussion on current affairs which highlight the issue of bullying and its unacceptability in the school.
- Pupils are taught to recognise bullying and are taught ways in which it may be prevented.
- All staff are trained so they understand that child-on-child abuse can happen and are trained to be alert to any behaviours that could cause concern.
- A clear procedure is in place for staff to report all incidents as a safeguarding concern to the school D/DSL on the Safeguard Software system.
- Staff are on duty at times when pupils are not in class (eg break and lunch times and in the Boarding House).
- The Boarding House Staff and Chorister Tutors are part of the pastoral team, providing support outside of lesson times, and being alert to signs of inappropriate language and behaviour.
- Pupils have access to telephones, and the Childline and Independent Listener's numbers are provided in the pupils' Prep Diaries.
- The matronal team is alert to signs and indicators of bullying, and know how to deal with it or the channels for reporting concerns.
- Our Year 8s have responsibilities with/for the younger children, and they know to report any concerns.
- We reserve the right to investigate incidents that take place outside school hours, on school trips and that occur in the vicinity of the school involving our pupils.
- A Use of Network Policy is in place, and all adults and pupils must adhere to it.
- Cyberbullying is unacceptable. The school has a separate Social Media Policy.
- Social networking sites are filtered from pupils and therefore cannot be accessed at school. The rapid development of, and widespread access to, technology has provided a new medium for 'virtual' bullying, which can occur in or outside school.
- The school regularly evaluates and updates its approach to bullying to take into account developments in technology.

Child-on-child sexual violence and sexual harassment

The DSL will follow local and national guidance when there has been a report of sexual violence and harassment between children. This will include liaising with other professionals to develop robust risk and needs assessments and multi-agency safety planning with appropriate specialist targeted work for pupils who are identified as posing a potential risk to other children. This is done using a Contextual Safeguarding approach to ensure assessments consider risks posed by any wider environmental factors present in a child's life. The DSL will record specifically the time and location of the incident, and any action required to make the location safer.

The NSPCC has a dedicated helpline 0800 136 663 to provide children who are victims of sexual abuse in schools with appropriate support and advice. The helpline also provides support to parents and professionals.

Serious violence

We are committed to success in learning for all our pupils as one of the most powerful indicators in the prevention of youth crime.

Our curriculum includes teaching conflict resolution skills and understanding risky situations to help our children develop the social and emotional skills they need to thrive.

Staff are trained to recognise both the early warning signs of contextual risks and that pupils may be vulnerable to exploitation and getting involved in gangs as well as indicators that a pupil is involved in serious violent crime. They are also aware of the associated risks and know the measures put in place to minimise such risks.

Children who are absent from education

Staff report immediately to the D/DSL, if they know of any child who may be:

- Missing – whereabouts unknown or
- Missing education – (compulsory school age (5-16) with no school place and not electively home educated)

The designated teacher for LAC and care leavers discusses any unauthorised/unexplained absence of Looked After Children with Virtual School when required.

The DSL shares any unauthorised/unexplained absence of children who have an allocated social worker within 24 hours.

Children who do not attend school regularly can be at increased risk of abuse and neglect. Where there is unauthorised/unexplained absence, and

- after reasonable attempts have been made to contact the family without success, the DSL follows the SVPP (Wiltshire Safeguarding Vulnerable People Partnership) procedure and consults/refers to the MASH team as appropriate.

- If a pupil is CME (Child Missing Education), we will contact the LA's Education Welfare Service. It is essential that they are informed on the 10th day of absence. A leaver entry is still required on the '**Pupil Move Leaver Spreadsheet'** for any CME pupils, but only when the (EWS(Education Welfare Service) has given the approval required to take any such pupils off roll.

- If a pupil leaves to be home educated EHE (Elective Home Education, we will contact the LA's Education Welfare Service. A leaver entry is still required on the **'Pupil Move Leaver Spreadsheet'** for any EHE pupils.

Mental health

All staff are aware that mental health problems can be an indicator that a child has suffered or is at risk of suffering abuse, neglect or exploitation.

Staff understand that:

- abuse and neglect, or other potentially traumatic adverse childhood experiences can have a lasting impact throughout childhood, adolescence and into adulthood.
- these experiences can impact on children's mental health, behaviour and education

- they have a duty to observe children day-to-day and identify those whose behaviour suggests that they may be experiencing a mental health problem or be at risk of developing one.

If staff have a mental health concern about a child that is also a safeguarding concern, they will report this concern using the agreed reporting mechanisms.

Domestic abuse
Staff understand that domestic abuse is any incident or pattern of incidents of controlling, coercive, threatening behaviour, violence or abuse between those aged 16 or over who are, or have been, intimate partners or family members regardless of gender or sexuality. The abuse can encompass but is not limited to: psychological; physical; sexual; financial; and emotional harm.

The DSL liaises with partner agencies as part of 'Encompass' in Wiltshire. When police are called to an incident of domestic abuse, where there are children in the household who have experienced the domestic incident, the DSL ensures the organisation receives up to date relevant information about the child's circumstances and will ensure key staff provide emotional and practical support to the child according to their needs.

Preventing radicalisation
Protecting children from the risk of radicalisation is part of schools' wider safeguarding duties, and is similar in nature to protecting pupils from other forms of harm and abuse.

Staff use their judgement in identifying pupils who might be susceptible to radicalisation and speak to the D/DSL if they are concerned about a pupil. The D/DSL will always act proportionately and this may include making a Prevent referral to the Channel support programme or to the MASH.

Female Genital Mutilation (FGM)
FGM is illegal in the UK and a form of child abuse with long-lasting harmful consequences. Staff will inform the D/DSL immediately if they suspect a girl is at risk of FGM. We will report to the police any 'known' cases of FGM to the police as required by law.

Child abduction and community safety incidents
Child abduction and community safety incidents which may be committed by parents or other family members, by people known but not related to the victim and by strangers, other community safety incidents should raise concerns, e.g. people loitering nearby or unknown adults engaging children in conversation.

Children in the court system
The School is ready to provide support to children of all ages when they are required to give evidence in criminal courts.

Children with family members in prison
The School is aware that such children are at risk of poor outcomes including poverty, stigma, isolation and poor mental health. We are ready to provide support and links to support professionals, to help mitigate negative consequences for those children.

Modern Slavery and the National Referral Mechanism
Modern Slavery encompasses human trafficking and slavery, servitude and forced or compulsory labour including sexual exploitation, forced labour, slavery, servitude, forced criminality and the removal of organs. Further support is available at www.gov.uk, "modern slavery; how to identify and support victims".

Homelessness

The School is aware of the risks and the reality of children's homelessness. The DSL will make referrals to the Local Housing Authority and/or Children's Social Care and Social Services.

Forced marriage

The School recognises that forcing a person into a marriage is a crime in England and Wales. A forced marriage is one entered into without the full and free consent of one or both parties and where violence, threats or any other form of coercion is used to cause a person to enter into a marriage. Threats can be physical or emotional and psychological. A lack of full and free consent can be where a person does not consent or where they cannot consent (if they have learning disabilities, for example).

In addition, since February 2023 it has also been a crime to carry out any conduct whose purpose is to cause a child to marry before their eighteenth birthday, even if violence, threats or another form of coercion are not used. As with the existing forced marriage law, this applies to non-binding, unofficial 'marriages' as well as legal marriages.

Child Criminal Exploitation (CCE) and Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE)

Both CSE and CCE are forms of abuse that occur where an individual or group takes advantage of an imbalance in power to coerce, manipulate or deceive a child into taking part in sexual or criminal activity, in exchange for something the victim needs or wants, and/or for the financial advantage or increased status of the perpetrator or facilitator and/or through violence or the threat of violence. CSE and CCE can affect children, both male and female and can include children who have been moved (commonly referred to as trafficking) for the purpose of exploitation

Staff are aware that some of the following can be indicators of both child criminal and sexual exploitation where children:

- Appear with unexplained gifts, money or new possessions;
- Associate with other children involved in exploitation;
- Suffer from changes in emotional well-being;
- Misuse drugs and alcohol;
- Go missing for periods of time or regularly come home late; and
- Regularly miss school or education or do not take part in education.

The School is aware that children who have been exploited will need additional support to help maintain them in education. Any concerns about CCE or CSE will be discussed with the Designated Safeguarding Lead who will take appropriate action.

Channel

Any individuals who are identified as being vulnerable to radicalisation are referred to a multi-agency Channel Panel. This ensures the appropriate interventions are put in place to protect the individual. Channel is a multi-agency safeguarding programme run in every local authority in England and Wales. It works to support vulnerable people with the intention of preventing them from being drawn into terrorism. It provides a range of support such as mentoring, counselling, assistance with employment etc. Where pupils at this school are being discussed, the Designated Safeguarding Lead or Head will attend the Panel meetings.

Staff training

Induction

The welfare of all our pupils is of paramount importance. All staff including Governors and regular volunteers are informed of our safeguarding policy and procedures including online safety, at induction.

Our induction for staff also includes:

- Plan of support for individuals appropriate to the role for which they have been hired
- Confirmation of the conduct expected of staff within the school – our Staff Behaviour Policy
- Opportunities for a new member of staff to discuss any issues or concerns about their role or responsibilities
- Confirmation of the line management/mentor process whereby any general concerns or issues about the person's ability or suitability will be addressed.

Safeguarding training

This training is for all staff and is updated every 3 years as a minimum to ensure staff understand their role in safeguarding. Any member of staff not present at this whole school session will undertake this statutory training requirement on their return.

In addition, all staff members receive safeguarding and child protection updates (for example, via email, e-bulletins, staff meetings) as necessary and at least annually. All staff also receive training in online safety and this is updated as necessary.

Advanced training

The D/DSL has additional multi agency training which is updated every two years as a minimum. The D/DSL also attend multi-agency courses relevant to school needs. Their knowledge and skills are refreshed at least annually eg via e-bulletins or safeguarding networking events with other D/DSLs. The D/DSL attends a Wiltshire MASH tour.

Safer Recruitment

At least one person on any appointment panel has undertaken Safer Recruitment Training. This training is updated every five years as a minimum.

Designated Teacher for Looked After Children

The designated teacher for looked after children has attended training specific to the role.

Preventing Radicalisation

All staff undertake Prevent awareness training.

Staff support

Due to the demanding, often distressing nature of child protection work, we support staff by providing an opportunity to talk through the challenges of this aspect of their role with a senior leader and to seek further support as appropriate.

Governors

As well as the school's safeguarding induction programme, all governors receive appropriate safeguarding and child protection (including online) training at induction. Governors are also encouraged to attend whole school safeguarding and child protection training.

Appendix 1: Related legislation and key documents

Children Act 1989 (and 2004 update): The Children Act 1989 gives every child the right to protection from abuse and exploitation and the right to have enquiries made to safeguard his or her welfare. The Act place duties on several agencies, including schools, to assist Social Services departments acting on behalf of children and young people in need (s17) or enquiring into allegations of child abuse (s47).

Education Act 2002 - This requires schools to make arrangements to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and to have regard to guidance issued by the Secretary of State for Education.

Sexual Offences Act 2003 - This act sets out an offence of 'abuse of trust' - a sexual or otherwise inappropriate relationship between an adult who is responsible for young people and a young person in his/her care.

Information Sharing – Department for Education (DfE) Advice for practitioners providing safeguarding services to children, young people, parents and carers 2024 This advice is for all frontline practitioners and senior managers working with children, young people, parents and carers who have to make decisions about sharing personal information on a case by case basis.

Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015 (the CTSA 2015), section 26 requires all schools, in the exercise of their functions, to have "due regard to the need to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism". This duty is known as the Prevent duty.

Mental health and behaviour in schools (2018) advice to help schools to support pupils whose mental health problems manifest themselves in behaviour. It is also intended to be helpful to staff in alternative provision settings, although some of the legislation mentioned will only apply to those alternative provision settings that are legally classified as schools.

The Safeguarding Vulnerable Groups Act (2006) Section 53(3) and (4) of this applies to schools if they broker student accommodation with host families for which the host family receives a payment from a third party, such as a language school. At a future date, the regulated activity provider will have a duty to carry out a barred list check on any new carer – section 34ZA Safeguarding Vulnerable Groups Act 2006.

The Teachers' Standards (2013) latest terminology Dec 2021, set a clear baseline of expectations for the professional practice and conduct of teachers and define the minimum level of practice expected of teachers in England.

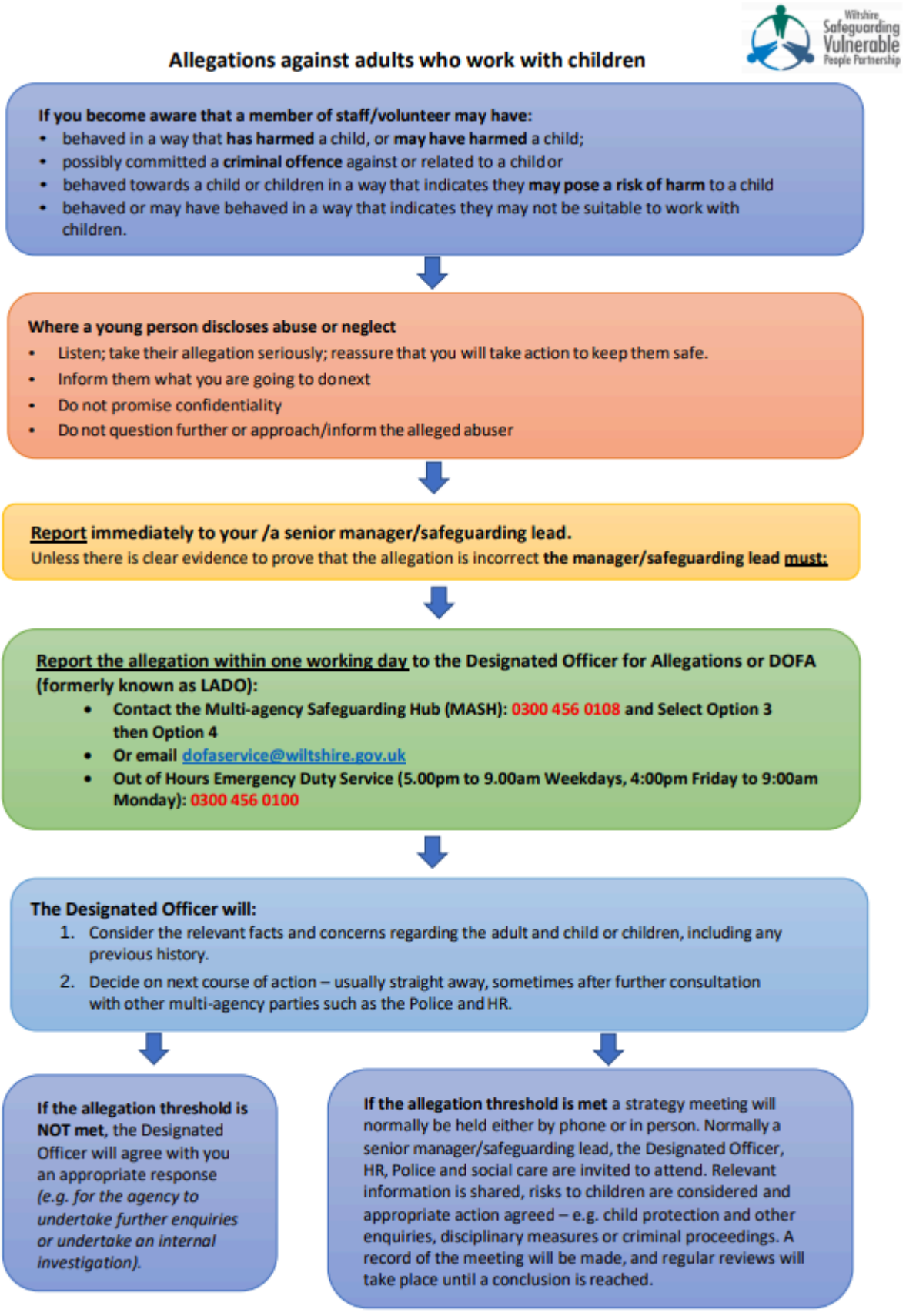
Education (Independent School Standards) Regulations (2014) This is non statutory guidance from the Department for Education (DfE). It has been produced to help proprietors and others understand the obligations under the independent school standards and 'to ensure that arrangements are made to safeguard and promote the welfare of children'. (KCSiE 2025 s24)

Children Missing Education (2024) Statutory guidance for local authorities and advice for other groups on helping children who are missing education get back into it.

Preventing and Tackling Bullying (2017) Advice for schools on effectively preventing and tackling bullying.

Behaviour and Discipline in Schools (2024) Advice for headteachers and school staff on developing school behaviour policy, including an overview of their powers and duties.

Appendix 2: Allegations against adults flowchart



Appendix 3: What to do if you are worried a child is being abused or neglected

What to do if you are worried a child is being abused or neglected

for staff, volunteers and visitors in all agencies and settings

Wiltshire Safeguarding Vulnerable People Partnership

Be alert to signs of abuse and question unusual behaviour

If you have concerns about a child's welfare…

Where a child also discloses abuse or neglect:

- Listen; take their allegation seriously; reassure that you will take action to keep them safe
- Inform them what you are going to do next
- Do not promise confidentiality
- Do not question further or approach/inform the alleged abuser

Report concerns to the Designated/Named Safeguarding Lead or their deputy:

NAME……

The Designated/Named Safeguarding Lead will:

- **consider further actions required, including consultation with MASH (number below)**
- **record in writing the discussions, decisions and reasons for decisions.**

In exceptional circumstances or in the absence of a Safeguarding Lead you may contact MASH directly.

If a referral is not required: The Designated Safeguarding Lead will oversee relevant action, eg pastoral support, and/or early help assessment and monitor locally.

If concerns continue

The Designated/Named Safeguarding Lead (or staff) will contact MASH to make a referral

Additional/unmet needs – the Designated Safeguarding Lead will consult with relevant agencies and undertake an Early Help CAF and Team around the Child meetings.

- **Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH):** 0300 456 0108
- **Out of Hours Emergency Duty Service:** 0300 456 0100 (5.00pm to 9.00am weekdays, 4:00pm Friday to 9:00am Monday)
- If the child is in **immediate risk**, dial 999 and ask for police assistance

MASH will:

1. Acknowledge receipt of referral
2. Decide on next course of action (within 1 working day)
3. Provide feedback decision to referrer (e.g. further assessment including: strategy discussion/child protection enquiries; no further action required for children's social care and early help assessment/CAF recommended; referral to other agency for service provision).

This flowchart is intended for use as a brief guide. Refer to the DfE Guidance What to do if you are worried a child is being abused for more information, definitions and possible indicators of abuse (including child sexual exploitation).

Appendix 4: Reporting a concern using Safeguard Software

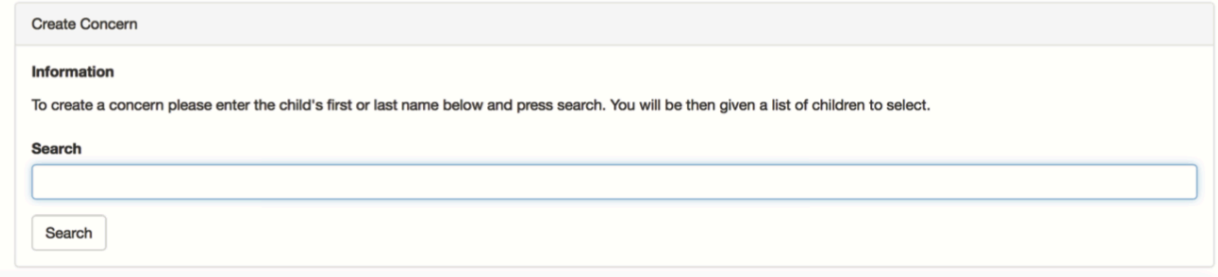
safeguard

To report a safeguarding concern or incident:

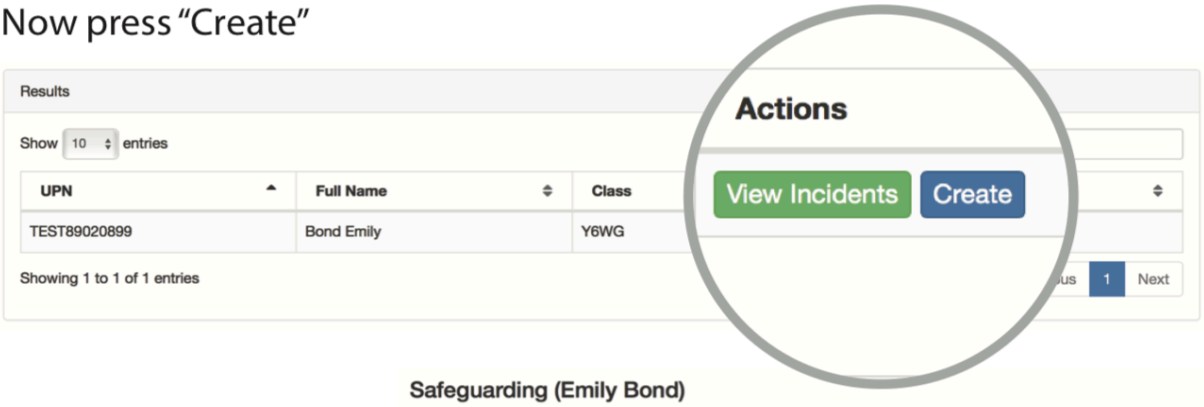
http://www.safeguardsoftware.co.uk, press login in the top right.

Your username is your school email address and your password will have been emailed to you
If you have forgotton or don't know your password then press "Reset Password" on the login screen.

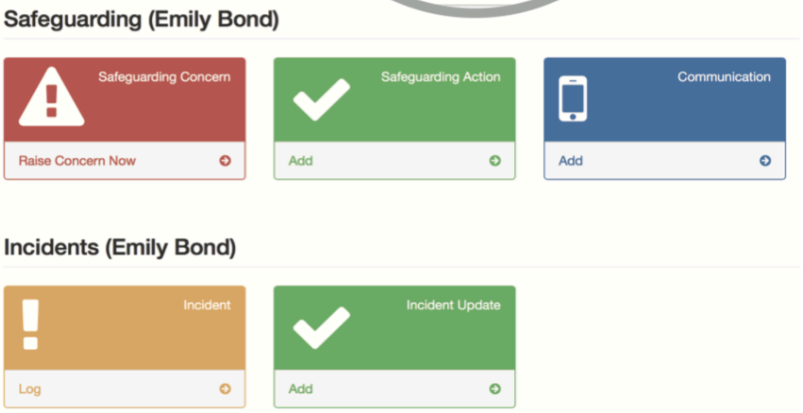
Once logged in, type the childs first or last name in to the search box and press "Search".



Now press "Create"

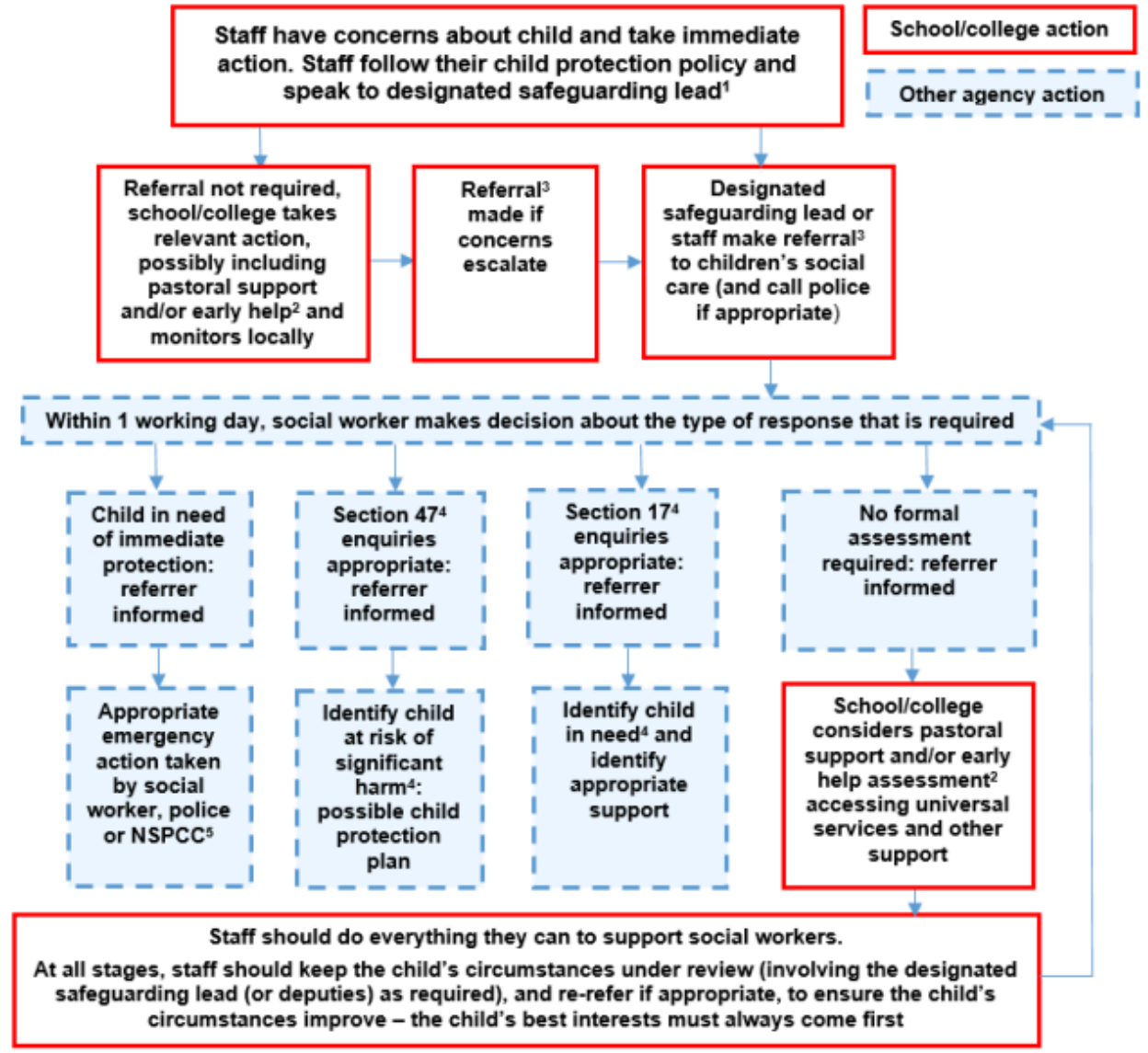


Select the type you wish to raise and fill in the required information.



Appendix 5: Actions where there are concerns about a child

Diagram below is an extract from KSCIE 2025:



[1] In cases which also involve a concern or an allegation of abuse against a staff member, see Part Four of this guidance.
[2] Early help means providing support as soon as a problem emerges at any point in a child's life. Where a child would benefit from co-ordinated early help, an early help inter-agency assessment should be arranged. Chapter one of Working Together to Safeguard Children provides detailed guidance on the early help process.
[3] Referrals should follow the process set out in the local threshold document and local protocol for assessment. Chapter one of Working Together to Safeguard Children.
[4] Under the Children Act 1989, local authorities are required to provide services for children in need for the purposes of safeguarding and promoting their welfare. Children in need may be assessed under section 17 of the Children Act 1989. Under section 47 of the Children Act 1989, where a local authority has reasonable cause to suspect that a child is suffering or likely to suffer significant harm, it has a duty to make enquiries to decide whether to take action to safeguard or promote the child's welfare. Full details are in Chapter one of Working Together to Safeguard Children.
[5] This could include applying for an Emergency Protection Order (EPO).

Appendix 6: The role of the Nominated Governor

Schools should appoint a Nominated Governor (NG) for safeguarding (or equivalent) to take leadership responsibility for the organisation's safeguarding arrangements.

This person's role is to ensure safeguarding is always a priority by:

- Championing child protection issues within the school and liaising with the DSL and the Head and offering challenge if necessary.
- Ensuring the Child Protection policy is checked for impact and reviewed yearly accordingly.
- Auditing safeguarding measures annually alongside the DSL and the Head using the Wiltshire Council annual school safeguarding audit return and reporting back to the Full Governing Body.
- Ensuring that all Governors understand and comply with their statutory duty to provide the services of the school in a way that safeguards and promotes the welfare of pupils.

Appendix 7: The role of the Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL)

The DSL is a senior member of staff, from the school leadership team, designated to take lead responsibility for:

- Managing all child protection issues (Head leads on allegations against staff), including referring cases to the MASH, or to the Channel programme where there is a radicalisation concern.
- Liaise with others within the school (Head, Nominated Governor, staff and volunteers, parents)
- Support staff who make referrals to the MASH or Channel programme
- Working in partnership with other agencies such as the local authority, MASH, police, Channel, Local Safeguarding Children's Board.
- Undertake training.
- Raise awareness of safeguarding, by regularly reviewing the safeguarding policy and procedures, ensure availability to staff and parents.
- Induction of staff and volunteers/staff training/ensure staff are aware of safeguarding policy and procedure.
- Maintain and transfer safeguarding files.

Information sharing – internal process

Information concerning students at risk of harm will be shared with all members of staff on a "need to know" basis. The DSL will make a judgement in each individual case about who needs and has a right to access particular information.

For more information about the role of the DSL (and DDSL), please refer to Annex C of KCSiE 2025.

Appendix 8: Indicators of abuse and neglect

Definitions taken from KCSIE 2025

Abuse:
A form of maltreatment of a child. Somebody may abuse or neglect a child by inflicting harm or by failing to act to prevent harm. Children may be abused in a family or in an institutional or community setting by those known to them or, more rarely, by others. Abuse can take place wholly online, or technology may be used to facilitate offline abuse. Children may be abused by an adult or adults or by another child or children.

Physical abuse:
A form of abuse which may involve hitting, shaking, throwing, poisoning, burning or scalding, drowning, 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.

Emotional abuse:
The persistent emotional maltreatment of a child such as to cause severe and adverse effects on the child's emotional development. It may involve conveying to a child that they are worthless or unloved, inadequate, or valued only insofar as they meet the needs of another person. It may include not giving the child opportunities to express their views, deliberately silencing them or 'making fun' of what they say or how they communicate. It may feature age or developmentally inappropriate expectations being imposed on children. These may include interactions that are beyond a child's developmental capability as well as overprotection and limitation of exploration and learning or preventing the child from participating in normal social interaction. It may involve seeing or hearing the ill-treatment of another. It may involve serious bullying (including cyberbullying), causing children frequently to feel frightened or in danger, or the exploitation or corruption of children. Some level of emotional abuse is involved in all types of maltreatment of a child, although it may occur alone.

Sexual abuse:
Involves forcing or enticing a child or young person to take part in sexual activities, not necessarily involving violence, whether or not the child is aware of what is happening. The activities may involve physical contact, including assault by penetration (for example rape or oral sex) or non-penetrative acts such as masturbation, kissing, rubbing, and touching outside of clothing. They may also include non-contact activities, such as involving children in looking at, or in the production of, sexual images, watching sexual activities, encouraging children to behave in sexually inappropriate ways, or grooming a child in preparation for abuse. Sexual abuse can take place online, and technology can be used to facilitate offline abuse. Sexual abuse is not solely perpetrated by adult males. Women can also commit acts of sexual abuse, as can other children. The sexual abuse of children by other children is a specific safeguarding issue (also known as peer on peer abuse) in education and all staff should be aware of it and of their school or colleges policy and procedures for dealing with it.

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 or development. Neglect may occur during pregnancy, for example, as a result of maternal substance abuse. Once a child is born, neglect may involve a parent or carer failing to: provide adequate food, clothing and shelter (including exclusion from home or abandonment); protect a child from physical and emotional harm or danger; ensure adequate supervision (including the use of inadequate care-givers); or ensure access to appropriate medical care or treatment. It may also include neglect of, or unresponsiveness to, a child's basic emotional needs. It may also include neglect of, or unresponsiveness to, a child's basic emotional needs.

Appendix 9 - Chorister Safeguarding Policy

Safeguarding Choristers at Salisbury Cathedral

1. Those Responsible for Safeguarding Arrangements

Safeguarding the Cathedral's Choristers is the responsibility of everyone. However, the Chapter and the School recognise the need to identify individuals who take a lead in this area and to whom others can look for advice. The following personnel are key in this respect:

- **The Cathedral Chapter Clerk (Chief Operating Officer)**– Mrs Jackie Molnar
- **The Chapter Representative nominated for Safeguarding and the School nominated Safeguarding Governor** – Canon Anna Macham (Canon Precentor)
- **The Cathedral Director of Music** – Mr David Halls
- **The School Head** – Mrs Sally Moulton
- **The Cathedral Assistant Director of Music** – Mr John Challenger
- **The School Designated Safeguarding Lead** – Mr Tom Halliday
- **The Chorister Tutor** – Mr John Young
- **The Cathedral Verger nominated for Safeguarding** – Mr Andrew Baker
- **The School Deputy Safeguarding Leads** –Mr Luke Green, Mr James Hunt and Mr Jack Stredwick
- **The Diocesan Safeguarding Advisor** – Mr Jeremy Carter
- **Wiltshire Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub** (MASH Team)

2. Policy and Guidance Informing this Document

Church of England Policy Statements:

- Promoting a Safer Church, the C of E's Safeguarding Policy for children, young people and adults (2017)
- Protecting All God's Children (safeguarding policy for children and young people, fourth edition, 2010)
- Promoting a Safe Church (safeguarding policy for adults, 2006) And the following Church of England Good Practice Guidance:
    - Safeguarding Training and Development Practice Guidance (2019)
    - Responding to Serious Safeguarding Situations (2017)
    - Risk Assessment for Individuals who may Pose Risk to Children/Adults (2015)
    - Safer Recruitment and People Management (2022)
    - Responding Well to Domestic Abuse (2017)
    - Responding Well to those who have been sexually abused (2011)

In addition:

- Salisbury Cathedral School Safeguarding Policy (2025)
- Salisbury Cathedral Safeguarding Policy (2024)
- Keeping Children Safe in Education (2025)

A current copy of the School's safeguarding policy is available in the Vestry. Once read, the vergers sign the policy, which is updated annually in accordance with the School's statutory obligations.

3. In the Event of an Allegation of Abuse

Should a chorister allege abuse, or someone else suspects abuse, the advice contained in Section 6 of the House of Bishops' Child Protection Policy Protecting All God's Children will be followed. If the person who receives such information is uncertain of the correct procedure, they should seek the advice and support of any of those named above.

If an allegation of abuse by a Church Officer (i.e. anyone, paid or a volunteer, who is appointed and working on behalf of the Church of England) is made, then the procedure outlined in the Church of England's guidance document Responding to Serious Safeguarding Situations will be followed.

The Chapter and School will work together to cooperate fully and openly with the statutory and voluntary agencies concerned with investigating such allegations and they will not conduct investigations on their own without prior consent.

4. Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility

Abuse can take many different forms, such as neglect, sexual abuse, physical abuse, emotional abuse, child exploitation, or modern slavery. If you are concerned that a chorister is being abused or is at risk of harm please call someone and report your concerns. Don't assume someone else will take responsibility and make that phone call.

If you think that a chorister is in immediate danger call the police on 999.

If you think that a chorister has been harmed or is being neglected:

Contact The Cathedral Safeguarding Team at safeguarding@salisbury.anglican.org on 01722 438651

or

Contact the Wiltshire Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub on 0300 456 0108, if out of office hours, the Emergency Duty Team on 0300 456 0100

or

Contact the police to discuss a child protection or safeguarding concern when a chorister is not in immediate danger telephone 101

Other agencies who can give advice: ChildLine 0800 1111 NSPCC 0808 800 5000

5. Membership of the Independent Safeguarding Advisory Group

Representatives from the School, the Cathedral and its Chapter and the Diocese meet termly to review policies and procedures and make plans to implement any changes to these in line with new legislation or guidance from Government and Church bodies. The chair is independent and holds the position of: Senior Lecturer in Social Work Minutes are circulated to group members and the Cathedral Chapter.

6. Specific aspects of chorister life requiring safeguarding consideration

Regular Routine

The Director of Music trains the choristers. He is assisted by the Assistant Director of Music and the Organ Scholar. One of the two Chorister Tutors, or another qualified member of School staff is in attendance in the

building at all Cathedral rehearsals and services for the supervision and welfare of the choristers. Whether employed by the Cathedral or the School, all adults responsible for training and supervising the choristers undergo all the recruitment checks in line with the Cathedral's Safer Recruitment protocols and the School's statutory obligations, this includes DBS checks. All receive regular safeguarding training and are briefed by the School's Safeguarding Lead, so that they are familiar with annual updates.

Weekday refreshments at School

4.00 – 4.20pm Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday. Chorister tea, at School, is supervised by the duty Chorister Tutor

Sunday morning refreshment break

The break between the Cathedral Eucharist and Mattins is supervised by the duty Chorister Tutor.

In the case where the duty Chorister Tutor is absent from the Cathedral rehearsal or service time, another member of school staff will be on hand. Where necessary, the duty Chorister Tutor or member of the Vestry staff will contact the School Matron, during school hours, or Boarding staff on the boarding mobile at all other times, should a chorister fall ill or require minor medical attention. In serious cases, the ambulance service will be contacted directly. The Head Verger, Mrs Esther Lycett, reviews this procedure with her colleagues.

In the event that more than one chorister falls ill or requires attention and the duty Chorister tutor has left the Cathedral Quire, a member of the ministerial team or a Lay Vicar who is present in the service, will assume responsibility for ensuring the additional chorister(s) are supervised and attended to.

If the Chorister Tutor is away from the Cathedral Quire, but still within the Cathedral building, they will be contacted by the use of a paging system.

Weekday morning and arrival at school

The duty Chorister Tutor completes the school register of all choristers who are in the care of the Cathedral Staff (Director of Music, Assistant Director of Music, Organ Scholar, or duty Chorister Tutor) at the start of the school day. The register is kept at the School Reception desk. Any changes (late arrivals or early departures) are reported promptly to the receptionist. Upon return to the School, the duty Chorister Tutor acknowledges that all choristers are returned to School.

Weekday afternoon/evening

The duty Chorister Tutor completes the school register of all choristers who are in the care of the Cathedral Staff beginning at Chorister Teatime. At the conclusion of the service the duty Chorister Tutor completes the choir attendance/sign-out log, releasing choristers to a) the care of their parents/guardians or b) the School boarding staff. The duty Chorister Tutor ensures the Boarding staff have all returning choristers checked in under their care before departure. The choir attendance/sign-out log is retained by the duty Chorister Tutor.

Weekend

The duty Chorister Tutor completes the choir attendance/sign-out log registering their arrival for Saturday afternoon rehearsal and Evensong, Sunday morning rehearsal and services, and Sunday afternoon rehearsal and Evensong as appropriate to the duty schedule. At the conclusion of the practice and/or service, the duty Chorister Tutor completes the attendance/sign-out log as above ensuring choristers are checked-in with School boarding staff before departure. The choir attendance/sign-out log is retained by the duty Chorister Tutor.

The duty Chorister Tutor is always present when the choristers are robing in the choir vestry. The Lay Vicars (the adults who sing in the Cathedral Choir) use the same space to robe. The Lay Vicars do not have unsupervised access to the choristers and all have undergone the statutory recruitment checks.

Foundation visits, trips and tours, concerts.

These are planned by the Director of Music in consultation with the Headteacher and must be approved formally at a Chapter meeting and School governors for insurance purposes. In the case of major, residential tours, the level of planning includes:

- A comprehensive reconnoitre by key staff
- Ensuring that all choristers are hosted in hotel-style accommodation with their nominated chaperones, as opposed to using private homestays
- Detailed risk assessments of all accommodation, rehearsal and performance venues, travel arrangements and all other sites visited
- Writing a dedicated safeguarding policy, adapted from the frameworks used by the Cathedral and School for their individual policies
- Devising a range of 'crisis management' policies
  Ensuring that all adults attending the tour sign a code of conduct and provide evidence that they have read all the relevant safeguarding policies and risk assessments
- Ascertaining contact details for all persons responsible for safeguarding at key venues as well as the national safeguarding agency's contact details.
- The Cathedral Chapter, School governors and an independent solicitor fully scrutinising all insurance policies.

Exeats

These are planned in consultation with the Head, Chorister Tutors, and Head of Boarding using the School's boarding house policies and procedures.

Southern Cathedrals Festival (SCF).

This is planned by the SCF Trustees in consultation with the Safeguarding representatives from Chichester, Salisbury and Winchester cathedrals'. Plans and policies are approved formally at a Chapter meeting for insurance purposes. A separate safeguarding policy is produced for the Festival and revised annually, in line with changes in legislation and taking into account each of the three Cathedral locations and their specific circumstances.

Choristers/Probationers under eight years of age.

Children under eight are subject to special legal provisions when they are on site for more than two hours. This includes the youngest members of the choir. Before that time, they are scheduled to attend morning rehearsals only and are on site for less than two hours. We are advised by Wiltshire Council that registration with Social Services is not required.

Public Relations and Public Interaction.

The Chapter has a blanket permission for choristers for public relations. In the event of an interview or recording, the duty Chorister Tutor, a member of School or Cathedral staff who is DBS checked will be present at all times. Casual interaction with the public is deterred through isolation and escort. Travel to and from the School and Cathedral is via the Cloisters, South Transept, and Vestry aisle. The Vestry aisle is typically closed to the public during service times. Choristers remain in the Vestry and Vestry aisle when unescorted alone.

In the event of the aisle being open to the public, choristers remain within the vestry until departure when they are escorted by the duty Chorister Tutor or other member of Cathedral or School staff that is DBS checked. On the occasions when there is a large service, family members are brought into the Vestry aisle away from the public to greet their choristers under supervision of the duty Chorister Tutor or Cathedral staff.

Shared access to Salisbury Cathedral.

When the choristers and any of the pupils of Salisbury Cathedral School are in the Cathedral, they are always accompanied and supervised by a Cathedral employee responsible for their choral training, or a member of School staff. All adults remain vigilant knowing that there are times when the Cathedral is open to members of the public, including tourists, pilgrims or worshippers. Where appropriate, signage is used to demarcate areas out of bounds to members of the public to help safeguard the choristers and pupils. Signage also indicates that photography in the Cathedral is forbidden during services and rehearsals.

Pastoral Care and Welfare.

A weekly meeting is held to discuss and consider the pastoral care and welfare issues of choristers. The balancing of chorister schedule, academic workload, athletic and school activities, family and personal time, and their overall health and well-being are considered. This meeting is attended by the Deputy or Assistant Head, the DSL, Cathedral and School Directors of Music, Chorister Tutor, and the School Head of Boarding.

Cathedral Toilets.

There is one solitary lockable toilet cubicle in the vestry. When the choristers are in the Cathedral, this toilet is designated for their sole use. At all other times Cathedral clergy and vestry staff may use this facility. All of these adults are DBS checked.

The choristers are encouraged to use the toilets at the School before or after rehearsals and services. In the event there are a great number of choristers simultaneously requiring the toilet, the choristers are escorted to the public toilets within the Cloisters (Little Paradise), by the duty Chorister Tutor. For some occasions, the upper floor toilets in the Cloisters are designated for the sole use of the choristers. In this instance, the choristers would be escorted to and from the Cloisters.

Person(s) responsible for the Chorister Safeguarding Policy:

Chapter Clerk (Chief Operating Officer
Canon Precentor
Director of Music
Cathedral School Headteacher

Appendix 10: Specific arrangements for Safeguarding Boarders

Beyond the school day (Overnight)
Both houseparents are Mrs Katie Stredwick and Jack Stredwick (Boarding DDSL) are Advanced Level Safeguarding Trained
DDSL Mr Luke Green is one of the duty staff

There are TWO weekly meetings to liaise over Safeguarding Concerns
The Chorister Meeting
The Boarding Meeting
Minutes are recorded and kept at both meetings
Concerns are recorded on Safeguarding Software

Use of personal devices in the Boarding House:
The children are not allowed to use their personal devices unless supervised. The devices are kept in a locked cupboard. The Old School House has its own internet filtering system but personal devices use 3G, 4G and 5G. The children may have their devices only to contact friends and family and a member of the boarding team will actively monitor this whilst providing them with suitable privacy.

Weekend and Exeat arrangements:
All staff have completed Safeguard training
There is a DDSL on duty at weekends

Exeat weekends the Head (DDSL) or DSL is available.

Person Responsible for this policy:	Assistant Head Pastoral (DSL)
Reviewed:	September 2025
Next Review:	September 2026