

Whole Club Policy For Safeguarding – including Child Protection

Role	Name
Owner	Paul Brooks
Manager and Deputy Safe Guarding Officer	Bethany Eaton
Deputy Manager and Safe Guarding Officer	Hayley Green

1. PURPOSE & AIMS

1.1 The purpose of Wickersley Kids Club's safeguarding policy is to ensure every child who is a registered child at our club is safe and protected from harm. This means we will always work to:

- Protect children and young people at our club from maltreatment;
- Prevent impairment of our children's and young people's health or development;
- Ensure that children and young people at our club grow up in circumstances consistent with the provision of safe and effective care;
- Undertake that role so as to enable children and young people at our club to have the best outcomes.

1.2 This policy will give clear direction to staff, volunteers, visitors and parents about expected behaviour and our legal responsibility to safeguard and promote the welfare of all children at our club.

1.3 Our club fully recognises the contribution it can make to protect children from harm and supporting and promoting the welfare of all children who are registered children at our club. This will also include identifying children who may benefit from early help. The elements of our policy are prevention, protection and support.

What is Abuse?

- Abuse may fall into a number of categories: - **physical abuse, sexual abuse, emotional abuse and neglect.** Abuse and neglect are forms 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 a stranger. They may be abused by an adult or adults, or another child or children.
- Appendix 4 defines each category of abuse in more detail

Specific safeguarding issues are:

Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) CSE is a form of child sexual abuse. It occurs where an individual or group takes advantage of an imbalance of power to coerce, manipulate or deceive a child or young person under the age of 18 into sexual activity (a) in exchange for something the victim needs or wants, and/or (b) for the financial advantage or increased status of the perpetrator or facilitator. The victim may have been sexually exploited even if the sexual activity appears consensual. CSE does not always involve physical contact; it can occur through the use of technology. CSE can occur in all communities and amongst all social and ethnic groups and can affect girls and boys. Children as young as 8 years have been identified, particularly in relation to online concerns. CSE is a complex form of abuse and it can be difficult for those working with children to identify and assess however, all those working in our club are made aware of the potential indicators of grooming and exploitation and how to refer concerns on appropriately.

Peer on Peer Abuse

Peer on peer abuse occurs when a young person is exploited, bullied and / or harmed by their peers who are the same or similar age; everyone directly involved in peer on peer abuse is under the age of 18. 'Peer-on-peer' abuse can relate to various forms of abuse (not just sexual abuse and exploitation), and crucially it does not capture the fact that the behaviour in question is harmful to the child perpetrator as well as the victim.

Key areas where peer on peer abuse occurs are:

- Bullying, including online/cyber bullying and prejudice-based bullying
- Racist, religious, disability and homophobic or transphobic abuse
- Gender based violence/violence against girls and young women
- Teenage relationship abuse
- Issues relating to gang activity and youth violence

Female Genital Mutilation (FGM)

FGM is addressed as part of the procedures around '*Honour Based Violence*' which is defined as "crimes which have been committed to protect and defend the honour of the family and/or the community, including FGM, Forced Marriage and practices such as Breast Ironing"

The club has due regard to the mandatory reporting duty, which came into force in October 2015, of the FGM Act 2003, which places a statutory duty on childcare workers to report to the police where they discover that FGM appears to have been carried out on a girl under 18 years. Staff in this club will be vigilant and will report promptly any FGM or other HBV concerns to the Designated Safeguarding Lead.

Preventing Radicalisation and Extremism (Prevent Duty)

The club has due regard to the Prevent Duty Guidance 2015, under Section 26 of the Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015, which aims to prevent children and young people from being drawn into extremism and terrorism.

We will engage with parents and families as we are in a key position to spot signs of radicalisation and we will assist and advise those families who do raise concerns and point them in the direction of support mechanisms ie, the Local Authority, Police and/or the Channel Programme.

As with other safeguarding risks, staff will be alert to changes in children's behaviour which could indicate that they may be in need of help or protection. Staff will use their judgement in identifying children who might be at risk of radicalisation and act proportionately which may include making a referral to the Channel programme.

Channel is a programme which focuses on providing support at an early stage to people who are identified as being vulnerable to being drawn into terrorism. It provides a mechanism for the club to make referrals if they are concerned that an individual might be vulnerable to radicalisation.

Online Safety

The predominant issues associated with online safety are:

- Content – exposure to illegal, harmful or inappropriate material
- Contact – harmful online interaction with others
- Conduct – online behaviour that increases the likelihood, or causes, harm

Youth Produced Sexual Imagery (Sexting)

Sharing photos and videos online is part of daily life for many people, enabling them to share their experiences, connect with friends and record their lives. Photos and videos can be shared as text messages, email, posted on social media or increasingly via mobile messaging apps, such as Snapchat, WhatsApp or Facebook Messenger.

The increase in the speed and ease of sharing imagery has brought concerns about young people producing and sharing sexual imagery of themselves and also sending or receiving sexually explicit text messages. This can expose them to risks, particularly if the imagery/text is shared further, including embarrassment, bullying and increased vulnerability to sexual exploitation. The production and sharing of sexual images of under 18s is also illegal.

At our club, we understand the responsibility to educate our children about all online safety issues; teaching them the appropriate behaviours and critical thinking skills to

enable them to remain both safe and legal when using the internet and related technologies.

Children with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND)

Our club understands that children with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) can face additional safeguarding challenges. Additional barriers can exist when recognising abuse and neglect in this group of children. This can include:

- Assumptions that indicators of possible abuse such as behaviour, mood and injury relate to the child's disability without further exploration;
- Children with SEND can be disproportionately impacted by things like bullying without outwardly showing any signs;
- Communication barriers and difficulties in overcoming these barriers.

Where there are any concerns raised about the safety and welfare of a child with SEND in our club, we will ensure that these will be treated in the same way as with any other child, with careful consideration of any additional needs.

Early Help and support for children in need:

Early help means providing support as soon as a problem emerges, at any point in a child's life, from the foundation years through to the teenage years. We will work with local agencies in Rotherham to put processes in place for the effective assessment of the needs of individual children who may benefit from early help services.

This may be a child who:

- Is disabled and has specific additional needs
- Has special educational needs
- Is a young carer
- Is showing signs of engaging in anti-social or criminal behaviour
- Is in a family circumstance presenting challenges for the child, such as substance abuse, adult mental health, domestic abuse; and/or
- Is showing early signs of abuse and/or neglect

121 2. OUR ETHOS

2.1 The child's welfare is of paramount importance. Our club will establish and maintain an ethos where children feel secure, are encouraged to talk, are listened to and are safe. Children at our club will be able to talk freely to any member of staff if they are worried or concerned about something.

2.2 Everyone who comes into contact with children and their families has a role to play in safeguarding children. We recognise that all staff at our club plays a particularly important role as they are in a position to identify concerns early and provide help for children to prevent concerns from escalating. All staff are advised to maintain an attitude of 'it could happen here' where safeguarding is concerned.

2.3 All staff and regular visitors will, through training and induction, know how to recognise indicators of concern, how to respond to a disclosure from a child and how

to record and report this information. We will not make promises to any child and we will not keep secrets. Every child will know what the adult will have to do with any information they have chosen to disclose.

2.4 At all times we will work in partnership and endeavour to establish effective working relationships with parents, carers and colleagues from other agencies in line with Working Together to Safeguard Children (2015).

3. ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

3.1 It is the responsibility of every member of staff, volunteer and visitor at the club to ensure that they carry out the requirements of this policy and, at all times, work in a way that will safeguard and promote the welfare of all of the pupils at this club. This includes the responsibility to provide a safe environment in which children can learn.

The owner and manager

3.2 The owner and manager of Wickersley Kids Club is accountable for ensuring the effectiveness of this policy and our compliance with it. Although our managers take collective responsibility to safeguard and promote the welfare of our children, we also have a named governor who champions safeguarding within the club.

3.3 The owner and manager will ensure that:

- The club contributes to inter-agency working in line with Working Together to Safeguard Children (2015);
- The club has due regard to the Prevent Duty Guidance 2015, under Section 26 of the Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015, which aims to prevent children and young people from being drawn into extremism and terrorism.
This may include making a referral to the Channel programme which provides a mechanism for club to make referrals (via MASH) if they are concerned that an individual might be vulnerable to radicalisation.
- The club has due regard to the mandatory reporting duty, which came into force in October 2015, of the Female Genital Mutilation Act 2003 which places a statutory duty on childcare workers to report to the police where they discover that FGM appears to have been carried out on a girl under 18 years.
- A member of the management team is designated to take the lead responsibility for safeguarding and child protection and that there is an alternate (deputy) and appropriately trained member of staff identified to deal with any issues in the absence of the designated safeguarding lead professional. There will always be cover for this role;
- All staff receive a safeguarding induction and are provided with a copy of this policy and the staff code of conduct;

- All staff undertake appropriate safeguarding and child protection training that is updated regularly; in addition, all staff members will receive safeguarding and child protection updates (for example, via e-mail, e-bulletins and staff meetings), as required, but at least annually, to provide them with relevant skills and knowledge to safeguard children effectively.
- Procedures are in place for dealing with allegations against members of staff and volunteers in line with statutory guidance;
- They remedy without delay any weakness in regard to our safeguarding arrangements that are brought to their attention.

3.4 The owner and manager will keep a document detailing all staff qualifications and training courses they have attended. They will also keep detailed reports of any safeguarding activity that has taken place such as any meetings had or any reports written.

3.5 The owner is responsible for;

- Identifying a member of the management team to be the Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL)
- Identifying an alternate member of staff to act as the Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead (DDSL) in his/her absence to ensure there is always cover for the role;
- Ensuring that the policies and procedures adopted by the club, particularly concerning referrals of cases of suspected abuse and neglect, are followed by all staff;
- Ensuring that all staff and volunteers feel able to raise concerns about poor or unsafe practice and such concerns are addressed sensitively in accordance with agreed whistle-blowing procedures;
- Liaising with the LADO in the event of an allegation of abuse being made against a member of staff

The Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL)

- The DSL at Wickersley Kids Club will represent our club at child protection conferences and core group meetings. Through appropriate training, knowledge and experience our DSL will liaise with Children's Services and other agencies where necessary, and make referrals of suspected abuse to

Children's Services, take part in strategy discussions and other interagency meetings and contribute to the assessment of children, including Early Help assessments.

- The DSL will maintain written records and child protection files ensuring that they are kept confidential and stored securely.
- The DSL is responsible for ensuring that all staff members and volunteers are aware of our policy and the procedure they need to follow. They will ensure that all staff, volunteers and regular visitors have received appropriate child protection information during induction and have been trained to the appropriate level recommended by the Rotherham LSCB

Staff Training and Induction

4.1 When new staff, volunteers or regular visitors join our club they will be informed of the safeguarding arrangements in place. They will be given a copy of our club's safeguarding policy along with the staff code of conduct and told who our Designated Safeguarding Lead is.

4.2 Every new member of staff or volunteer will have an induction period that will include essential safeguarding information. This programme will include basic safeguarding information relating to signs and symptoms of abuse, how to manage a disclosure from a child, how to record this information and discuss issues of confidentiality. The induction will also remind staff and volunteers of their responsibility to safeguard all children at our club and the remit of the role of the Designated Safeguarding Lead. at induction.

4.3 In addition to the safeguarding induction, all members of staff will undertake appropriate safeguarding All staff members will also receive regular safeguarding and child protection updates (for example, via e-mail or at staff briefings) as required, but at least annually, to provide them with relevant skills and knowledge to safeguard children effectively.

4.4 All regular visitors and volunteers to our club will be given a set of our safeguarding procedures; they will be informed of whom our DSL and alternate staff members are and what the recording and reporting system is.

4.5 Our management will also undertake appropriate training to ensure they are able to carry out their duty to safeguard all of the children at our club.

4.6 We actively encourage all of our staff to keep up to date with the most recent local and national safeguarding advice and guidance.

5. PROCEDURES FOR MANAGING CONCERNS

5.1 Wickersley Kids Club adheres to child protection procedures that have been agreed locally through the Rotherham LSCB.

5.2 Every member of staff including volunteers working with children at our club is advised to maintain an attitude of 'it could happen here' where safeguarding is concerned. When concerned about the welfare of a child, staff members should always act in the interests of the child and have a responsibility to take action as outlined in this policy.

5.3 It is not the responsibility of club staff to investigate welfare concerns or determine the truth of any disclosure or allegation. All staff, however, has a duty to recognise concerns and pass the information on in accordance with the procedures outlined in this policy.

5.4 The Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) should be used as a first point of contact for concerns and queries regarding any safeguarding concern in our club. Any member of staff or visitor to the club who receives a disclosure of abuse or suspects that a child is at risk of harm must report it immediately to the DSL or, if unavailable, to the Deputy DSL. In the absence of either of the above, the matter should be brought to the attention of the owner.

5.5 If a child is in immediate danger or risk of harm, a referral should be made to **MASH telephone 01709336080**. Anyone can make a referral but in situations where referrals are not made by the DSL, they should be informed as soon as possible afterwards that a referral has been made by someone else.

5.6 All concerns, discussions and decisions made and the reasons for those decisions should be recorded in writing using the agreed reporting procedure in the club.

5.7 Following receipt of any information raising concern, the DSL will consider what action to take and seek advice from children's social care – Multi agency Safeguarding Hub (**MASH**) as required. All information and actions taken, including the reasons for any decision made will be fully documented. **Any Safeguarding concerns shared with the local authority, should be reported to Ofsted within 14 days of the incident occurring.**

5.8 If the child's situation does not appear to be improving the staff member with concerns should press for re-consideration by raising concerns again with the DSL and/or the manager. Concerns should always lead to help for the child at some point.

5.9 Staff should always follow the reporting procedures outlined in this policy in the first instance. However, they may also share information directly with MASH, or the police, if the situation is an emergency and the DSL, their deputy and the Manager are all unavailable and they are convinced that a direct report is the only way to ensure the child's safety

5.10 Any member of staff who does not feel that concerns about a child have been responded to appropriately and in accordance with the procedures outlined in this policy should raise their concerns with the Manager or the owner. If any member of staff does not feel the situation has been addressed appropriately at this point should contact the Safeguarding Children's Unit on 01709 823914 directly with their concerns.

6. RECORDS AND INFORMATION SHARING

6.1 If there are any concerns raised about the welfare or safety of any child at our club staff will record their concern on the agreed reporting format (most recently CPOMS). They should ensure that the report is signed and dated. Any concerns should be passed to the DSL without delay.

6.2 Any information recorded will be kept in a separate named file, in a secure cabinet and not with the other details of the child.. All files will be the responsibility of the DSL. Child protection information will only be shared within club on the basis of 'need to know in the child's interests' and on the understanding that it remains strictly confidential.

6.3 Child protection information will only be kept in the file and this file will be kept up to date. Records of concern, copies of referrals, invitations to child protection conferences, core groups and reports will be stored here. All our safeguarding files will include; a chronology, contents front cover and will record significant events in the child's life.

7. WORKING WITH PARENTS AND CARERS.

7.1 Wickersley kids club is committed to working in partnership with parents/carers to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and to support them to understand our statutory responsibilities in this area.

7.2 When new children join our club, parents and carers will be informed that we have a safeguarding policy. A copy will be provided to parents/carers on request and is available on the club website.

7.3 We are committed to working with parents and carers positively, openly and honestly. We ensure that all parents and carers are treated with respect, dignity and courtesy. We respect parent's/carer's rights to privacy and confidentiality and will not share sensitive information unless we have consent or it is necessary to do so in order to safeguard a child from harm.

7.4 We will seek to share with parents/carers any concerns we may have about their child unless to do so may place a child at increased risk of harm. A lack of parental engagement or agreement regarding the concerns that the club has about a child will

not prevent the DSL making a referral to MASH in those circumstances where it is not appropriate to do so.

7.5 In order to keep children safe and provide appropriate care for them, the club requires parents/carers to provide accurate and up to date information regarding:

- Full names and contact details of all adults with whom the child normally lives;
- Full names and contact details of all persons with parental responsibility (if different from above);
- Emergency contact details (if different from above)
- Full details of any other adult authorised by the parent to collect the child from the club (if different from above)

The club will retain this information on the child's file. The club will only share information about children with adults who have parental responsibility for a child or where a parent has given permission and the club has been supplied with the adult's full details in writing.

8. Child Protection Conferences

8.1 Social Care will convene a child protection conference once a child protection enquiry under Section 47 of the Children Act 1989 had been undertaken and the child is judged to be at continuing risk of significant harm. A review conference will take place once a child has been made the subject of a child protection plan in order to monitor the safety of the child and the required reduction in risk.

8.2 Staff members may be asked to attend a child protection conference or core group meetings on behalf of the club in respect of individual children. Usually the person representing the club at these meetings will be the manager or DSL. In any event, the person attending will need to have as much relevant up to date information about the child as possible; any member of staff may be required to contribute to this process.

8.3 All reports for child protection conferences will be prepared in advance using the guidance and preferably the template provided. This can be obtained by contacting Sherran.finney@rotherham.gov.uk The information contained in the report will be shared with parents before the conference as appropriate and will include information relating to the child's physical, emotional and intellectual development and the child's presentation at the club. In order to complete such reports, all relevant information will be sought from staff working with the child in the club.

8.4 Clearly child protection conferences can be upsetting for parents. We recognise that we are likely to have more contact with parents than other professionals involved. We will work in an open and honest way with any parent whose child has

been referred to Children's Services or whose child is subject to a child protection plan. Our responsibility is to promote the protection and welfare of all children and our aim is to achieve this in partnership with our parents.

9. Safer Recruitment

9.1 We will ensure that the owner and at least one member of the management have completed appropriate safer recruitment training. At all times the owner and the manager will ensure that safer recruitment practices are followed.

9.2 At Wickersley Kids Club we will use the recruitment and selection process to deter and reject unsuitable candidates. We require evidence of original academic certificates. We do not accept testimonials and insist on taking up references prior to appointment. We will question the contents of application forms if we are unclear about them, we will undertake Disclosure and Barring Service checks and use any other means of ensuring we are recruiting and selecting the most suitable people to work with our children.

9.3 We will maintain a Single Central Register of all safer recruitment checks carried out in line with statutory requirements. The Single Central Register will contain information on all staff members on the following:

- An identity check
- A barred list check
- An enhanced DBS check/certificate
- A check of professional qualifications
- A check to establish the person's right to work in the UK
- Further checks on people who have lived or worked outside the UK

10. Safer Working Practise

10.1 All adults who come into contact with our children have a duty of care to safeguard and promote their welfare. There is a legal duty placed upon us to ensure that all adults who work with or on behalf of our children are competent, confident and safe to do so

10.2 All staff will be provided with a copy of our club's code of conduct at induction. They will be expected to know our club's Code of Conduct and policy for positive handling and carry out their duties in accordance with this advice. There will be occasion when some form of physical contact is inevitable, for example if a child has an accident or is hurt or is in a situation of danger to themselves or others around them. However, at all times the agreed policy for safe restraint must be adhered to. A list of staff that has accessed training will be kept by the manager

10.3 If staff, visitors, volunteers or parent helpers are working with children alone they will, wherever possible, be visible to other members of staff. They will be expected to inform another member of staff of their whereabouts in the club, who

they are with and for how long. Doors, ideally, should have a clear glass panel in them and be left open.

.10.4 Guidance about acceptable conduct and safe practice will be given to all staff and volunteers during induction. These are sensible steps that every adult should take in their daily professional conduct with children.

11. Managing Allegations Against Staff and Volunteers

11.1 Our aim is to provide a safe and supportive environment which secures the well

being and very best outcomes for the children at our club. We do recognise that sometimes the behaviour of adults may lead to an allegation of abuse being made.

11.2 Allegations sometimes arise from a differing understanding of the same event, but when they occur they are distressing and difficult for all concerned. We also recognise that many allegations are genuine and there are some adults who deliberately seek to harm or abuse children.

11.3 We will take all possible steps to safeguard our children and to ensure that the adults in our school are safe to work with children. We will always ensure that the procedures outlined in Rotherham Local Safeguarding Children Board Child Protection Procedures: Chapter 5 and Part 4 of the statutory guidance 'Keeping Children Safe in Education' (2016) are adhered to and will seek appropriate advice from the Local Authority Designated Officer (LADO).

The LADO can be contacted on 01709 823914 or via MASH on 01709 336080.
www.rotherhamsccbproceduresonline.com/index.html

11.4 If an allegation is made or information is received about an adult who works in our setting which indicates that they may be unsuitable to work with children, the member of staff receiving the information should inform the manager immediately. Should an allegation be made against the manager, this will be reported to the owner. In the event that the manager or owner is not contactable on that day, the information must be passed to and dealt with by either the member of staff acting as manager or the deputy manager.

11.5 The manager or owner will seek advice from the LADO within one working day. No member of staff will undertake further investigations before receiving advice from the LADO.

11.6 Any member of staff or volunteer who does not feel confident to raise their concerns with the manager or owner should contact the LADO directly on 01709 823914 or via MASH on 01709 336080

11.7 The club has a legal duty to refer to the Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) anyone who has harmed, or poses a risk of harm, to a child, or if there is reason to believe the member of staff has committed one of a number of listed offences, and

who has been removed from working (paid or unpaid) in regulated activity, or would have been removed had they not left. The DBS will consider whether to bar the person. If these circumstances arise in relation to a member of staff at our club, a referral will be made as soon as possible after the resignation or removal of the individual in accordance with advice from the LADO.

12. Relevant Policies

12.1 To underpin the values and ethos of our club and our intent to ensure that children at our club are appropriately safeguarded the following policies are also included under our safeguarding umbrella:

- Staff Code of Conduct
- Anti-Bullying
- Behaviour Policy
- Recruitment & Selection
- Whistle-Blowing
- Attendance
- E-safety/Safer Internet Use
- Health and Safety including site security
- Equal Opportunities
- Medicines and Supporting Medical Conditions
- Intimate Care

Appendix 2: Example of a Safeguarding Induction Sheet for new or supply staff and regular visitors or volunteers.

We all have a statutory duty to safeguard and promote the welfare of children, and at our club we take this responsibility seriously.

If you have any concerns about a child or young person in our club, you must share this information immediately with our Designated Safeguarding Lead or one of the alternate post holders.

Do not think that your worry is insignificant if it is about hygiene, appearance or behaviour – we would rather you told us as we would rather know about something that appears small than miss a worrying situation.

If you think the matter is very serious and may be related to child protection, for example, physical, emotional, sexual abuse or neglect, you must find one of the designated professionals detailed below and discuss your concerns with them.

If you are unable to locate them ask a member of staff to find them and to ask them to speak with you immediately about a confidential and urgent matter.

Any allegation concerning a member of staff, a child's foster carer or a volunteer should be reported immediately to the manager. If an allegation is made about the manager you should pass this information to the owner. Alternatively, you can contact the Local Authority Designated Officer on 01709 823914 or via MASH on 01709 336080.

The people you should talk to in the club are:

Designated Safeguarding Lead: Hayley Green
Contact Number: 07960960331

Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead: Bethany Eaton
Contact Number: 07960960331

Owner of Wickersley Kids Club: Paul Brooks
Contact Number: 07834991027

At Wickersley Kids Club we strive to safeguard and promote the welfare of all our children.

When to make a referral to MASH

A referral should be made to MASH when:

- A child or young person makes a clear allegation of abuse
- A child has been abandoned
- Further concerns has arisen in relation to an open case to Children's Social Care
- Concerns of significant harm have arisen for a child receiving a service as a child in need
- Further concerns have arisen of increased or additional risk to a child currently subject to a child protection plan
- A child sustains an injury and there is professional concerns about how it was caused
- There are any circumstances which suggest that a child is suffering or is likely to suffer significant harm
- An unborn child may be at risk of significant harm
- A non-mobile infant sustains any injury, however slight, without an adequate accidental explanation
- A member of the public makes an allegation that someone has abused a child
- Professional concern exists about abuse or neglect, despite no allegation being made
- A child has been made the subject of an emergency protection order or a police protection order.
- Concerns have arisen for a child who is the subject of a supervision order or care order.
- Despite professional intervention, either on a single agency basis or as part of early help intervention, because of suspected neglect or abuse there is concern that a child is suffering or is likely to suffer significant harm or requires additional support
- There are concerns that a child is being sexually exploited
- A child is reported missing from home or care and there are no additional concerns about their vulnerability

- There are concerns a child may be harmed because of use of technology or social media
- Concern exists about a child have contact with a person who may pose a risk, or potential risk, to children
- A child is being denied access to urgent or important medical assessment or services
- There are suspicions that a child might be harmed because of fabricated or induced illness
- A child is at risk of being subjected to illegal procedures, for example
 1. Female Genital Mutilation
 2. Forced Marriage
 3. Honour Based Violence
 4. Child Trafficking
- A child is at risk or vulnerable to being drawn into terrorism
- A child is at risk of being harmed through experiencing or seeing the ill-treatment of another
- A child is at risk of being harmed because of concerns about their parent's mental health
- Either an adult or child makes allegations of non-recent abuse

PLEASE NOTE THIS LIST IS NOT EXHAUSTIVE

Definitions of Abuse

Physical Abuse

This is 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

This is 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 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

This involves forcing or enticing a child to take part in sexual activities, not necessarily involving a high level of 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 (including via the internet). Sexual abuse is not solely perpetrated by adult males. Women can also commit acts of sexual abuse, as can other children.

Neglect

This is 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 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 caregivers)
- Ensure access to appropriate medical care or treatment

- It may also include neglect of, or unresponsiveness to, a child's basic emotional needs.