



# Bungay Primary school

## Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy

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Approved by:	Governing body
Signature of Chair of Governors:	
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# Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy

Safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children is **everyone's** responsibility. **Everyone** who comes into contact with children and their families has a role to play. In order to fulfil this responsibility effectively, all professionals should make sure their approach is child-centred. This means that they should consider, at all times, what is in the **best interests** of the child. (Keeping Children Safe in Education, 2018)

## 1. Ethos

We recognise the moral and statutory responsibility placed on all staff to safeguard and promote the welfare of all children. We aim to provide a safe and welcoming environment, underpinned by a culture of openness where both children and adults feel secure, are able to raise concerns and believe they are being listened to, and that appropriate action will be taken to keep them safe.

At Bungay Primary School we are committed to safeguarding children and young people and we expect everyone who works in our school to share this commitment. Adults in our school take all welfare concerns seriously and encourage children and young people to talk to us about anything that worries them. We will always act in the best interest of the child.

## 2. Introduction

The governing body recognises the need to ensure that it complies with its duties under legislation and this policy has regard to statutory guidance, Keeping Children Safe in Education (KCSiE) 2018, Working Together to Safeguard Children 2018 and locally agreed inter-agency procedures put in place by Suffolk Safeguarding Children Board.

This policy will be reviewed annually, as a minimum, and will be made available publicly via the school website or on request.

Safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children is defined as: protecting children from maltreatment; preventing impairment of children's health or development; ensuring that children grow up in circumstances consistent with the provision of safe and effective care; and taking action to enable all children to have the best outcomes.

This policy is for all staff, parents, governors, volunteers and the wider school community. It forms part of the child protection and safeguarding arrangements for our school and is one of a suite of policies and procedures which encompass the safeguarding responsibilities of the school. In particular, this policy should be read in conjunction with the school's Code of Conduct, including Acceptable Use of ICT, Safer Recruitment Policy, E-Safety Policy and Behaviour and Anti-Bullying Policy.

The aims of this policy are to:

- Provide staff with a framework to promote and safeguard the wellbeing of children and young people and ensure that they understand and meet their statutory responsibilities;
- Ensure consistent good practice across the school.

The governing body expects that all staff will know and understand this child protection and safeguarding policy and their responsibility to implement it. Staff must, as a minimum, have read and understand [Part One and Annex A of KCSiE](#). Governors will ensure that they have read and understand [Parts One and Two of KCSiE](#).

The governing body ensures that arrangements are in place for all staff members to receive appropriate safeguarding and child protection training which is regularly updated.

Compliance with the policy is monitored by the headteacher, designated safeguarding lead (DSL) and named safeguarding governor.

### **3. Statutory framework**

Section 175 of the Education Act 2002 in the case of maintained schools and pupil referral units<sup>1</sup>, Section 157 of the Education Act and the Education (Independent Schools) Regulations 2014 for independent schools (including academies and free schools) place a statutory duty on governing bodies and proprietors to have policies and procedures in place that safeguard and promote the welfare of children and young people who are pupils of the school, which must have regard to any guidance given by the Secretary of State.

The Local Safeguarding Children Board (LSCB) has a range of roles and statutory functions including developing local safeguarding policy and procedures and scrutinising local arrangements. In Suffolk, all professionals including staff in schools work in accordance with the multi-agency procedures developed by the Suffolk SCB (SSCB) which can be found on their website at: <http://suffolkscb.org.uk/>.

### **4. Key roles and responsibilities**

#### **Governing Body**

The governing body has a legal responsibility to make sure that there are appropriate policies and procedures in place in order for appropriate action to be taken in a timely manner to safeguard and promote children and young people's welfare, and to monitor that the school complies with them. The governing body ensures that the policy is made available to parents and carers by publishing this on the school website or in writing if requested.

The governing body ensures that the school contributes to multi-agency working in line with statutory guidance contained in Working Together to Safeguard Children. The school's safeguarding arrangements take into account locally agreed multi-agency safeguarding arrangements.

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<sup>1</sup> Section 175, Education Act 2002 – for management committees of pupil referral units, this is by virtue of regulation 3 and paragraph 19A of Schedule 1 to the Education (Pupil Referral Units) (Application of Enactments) (England) Regulations 2007

It is the responsibility of the governing body to ensure that staff and volunteers are properly vetted to make sure they are safe to work with the pupils who attend Bungay Primary School and that the school has procedures for appropriately managing allegations of abuse made against members of staff (including the headteacher and volunteer helpers).

The governing body will ensure that there is a named governor for safeguarding, a designated safeguarding lead (DSL) who has lead responsibility for safeguarding and child protection, and a designated teacher to promote the educational achievement of children who are looked after or previously looked after, and will ensure that these people have the appropriate training.

The governing body will inform Suffolk County Council annually about the discharge of their safeguarding duties by completing the safeguarding self-assessment audit.

### **Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL)**

The designated safeguarding lead (DSL) is responsible for safeguarding and child protection at Bungay Primary School. The key role of the designated safeguarding lead is to:

- manage referrals from school staff or any others from outside the school
- work with external agencies and professionals on matters of safety and safeguarding
- undertake training
- raise awareness of safeguarding and child protection amongst the staff and parents
- ensure that child protection information is transferred to the pupil's new school

The DSL takes lead responsibility for safeguarding and child protection (including online safety). This is explicit in the role-holder's job description. (The broad areas of responsibility and activities related to the role of the DSL are set out in Annex B of KCSiE).

The DSL has the appropriate status and authority to carry out the duties of the post.

The DSL and deputy DSL liaise with the local authority and work with other agencies in line with Working Together to Safeguard Children.

During term time, the DSL or a deputy are always available during school hours for staff to discuss any safeguarding concerns. The DSL makes arrangements for adequate and appropriate cover arrangements for any out of hours/out of term time activities. During out of school hours or during school holidays, the Local Authority has the DSL's contact details in the event of emergency.

If in exceptional circumstances, the DSL or deputy is not available, this should not delay appropriate action being taken. Staff should consider speaking to a member of the senior leadership team and/or take advice from local children's social care. In these circumstances, any action taken should be shared with the DSL or deputy as soon as is practically possible.

The DSL and deputy will undergo training to provide them with the knowledge and skills to carry out the role. This training will be updated every two years.

## **Headteacher**

The headteacher ensures that the policies and procedures adopted by the governing body are fully implemented and that sufficient resources and time are allocated to enable staff members to discharge their safeguarding responsibilities.

## **All staff**

All staff have a responsibility to provide a safe environment in which children can learn.

All staff must read and ensure they understand Part One and Annex A of KCSiE.

All staff must ensure they are familiar with the systems within school which support safeguarding, including the child protection and safeguarding policy, the code of conduct/staff behaviour policy, the behaviour and anti-bullying policies, the safeguarding response to children who go missing from education, and the role of the DSL (including the identity of the DSL and any deputies).

All staff should be aware of the types of abuse and neglect so that they are able to identify cases of children who may be in need of help or protection.

All staff should know what to do if a child tells them he/she is being abused or neglected.

All staff should be aware of the process for making referrals to children's social care and for statutory assessments under the Children Act 1989 that may follow a referral, especially section 17 (children in need) and section 47 (a child suffering, or likely to suffer, significant harm) along with the role they might be expected to play in such assessments.

## **Early help**

All staff should be aware of the [early help process](#) and understand their role within it. This includes providing support as soon as a problem emerges, liaising with the DSL, and sharing information with other professionals in order to support early identification and assessment, focussing on providing interventions to avoid escalation of worries and needs (see Section 11: Information Sharing). In some cases, staff may be asked to act as the lead professional in undertaking an early help assessment.

Any child may benefit from early help, but all school staff should be particularly alert to the potential need for early help for a child who:

- is disabled and has specific additional needs
- has special educational needs (whether or not they have a statutory Education, Health and Care Plan)
- is a young carer
- is showing signs of being drawn into anti-social or criminal behaviour, including gang involvement and association with organised crime groups
- is frequently missing from care or from home
- is at risk of modern slavery, trafficking or exploitation
- is at risk of being radicalised or exploited

- is in a family circumstance presenting challenges for the child, such as drug and alcohol misuse, adult mental health issues or domestic abuse
- is misusing drugs or alcohol themselves
- has returned home to their family from care
- is a privately fostered child

Knowing what to look out for is vital to the early identification of abuse and neglect. If staff are unsure, they should always speak to the DSL or deputy. If in exceptional circumstances the DSL or deputy is not available, this should not delay appropriate action being taken. Staff should consider speaking to a member of the senior leadership team and/or take advice from children’s social care. In these circumstances, any action taken should be shared with the DSL as soon as is practically possible.

<b>Role:</b>	<b>Name and contact details:</b>
Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL)	Mr Simon Godfrey / Miss Katherine Milk 01986 892209
Deputy DSL	Mrs Dawn McGrotty / Mrs Emma Thompson and Mrs Nikki Flatt 01986 892209
Named safeguarding governor	Rev Jacquie Evans
Chair of Governors	Mrs Marilyn Richardson
School e-Safety Lead	Mrs Zena Mayhew
Designated teacher for Children in Care and children previously in care (CiC)	Mr Simon Godfrey
Trust Chief Executive Officer	Clare Flintoff     01473 251333

### **Children with special educational needs and disabilities**

Children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities can face additional safeguarding challenges because:

- there may be assumptions that indicators of possible abuse such as behaviour, mood and injury relate to the child’s disability without further exploration
- they may be more prone to peer group isolation than other children
- they can be disproportionately impacted by behaviours such as bullying without outwardly showing any signs
- difficulties may arise in overcoming communication barriers

To address these additional challenges, and to help identify pupils who may need extra support to be kept safe or to keep themselves safe, Bungay Primary School considers extra pastoral support for children with special educational needs and disabilities through: regular discussions at pastoral team, pupil progress, assess, plan, do, review, annual review and

transition meetings and parents' evenings. Regular discussions take place between support staff and teachers which may result in a referral for discussion within the pastoral team.

## 5. Training

The governing body ensures that all staff receive appropriate safeguarding and child protection training which is regularly updated and [in line with advice from SSCB](#). In addition, all staff members receive regular safeguarding and child protection updates (for example, via email, e-bulletins, staff meetings) as required, but at least annually, to provide them with relevant skills and knowledge to safeguard children effectively. The DSL and deputy attend training every two years and in addition to formal training, their knowledge and skills are refreshed at regular intervals, at least annually. At least one member of any recruitment interview panel has completed safer recruitment training.

All new members of staff undergo safeguarding and child protection training at induction. All staff will receive training in and will be expected to read the following documents:

- Keeping children safe in education (2018) Part One and Annex A
- Staff code of conduct
- Safeguarding and child protection policy
- The school's behaviour and anti-bullying policies
- The school policy for children missing education
- The role of the DSL

Copies of the school's policies, procedures and Part One and Annex A of KCSiE will be provided to new staff at induction.

The headteacher will ensure that an accurate record of safeguarding training undertaken by all staff is maintained and updated regularly.

## 6. Recognising concerns - signs and indicators of abuse.

All staff should be aware that abuse, neglect and safeguarding issues are rarely standalone events that can be covered by one definition or label. In most cases, multiple issues will overlap with one another.

**Abuse** is defined as 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. They may be abused by an adult or adults or another child or children.

The following indicators listed under the categories of abuse are not an exhaustive list:

**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 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 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. The sexual abuse of children by other children is a specific safeguarding issue in education (See section 7: Specific safeguarding issues and Appendix A)

**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 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.

(Source: Keeping Children Safe in Education 2018)

## 7. Specific safeguarding issues

All staff should have an awareness of safeguarding issues that can put children at risk of harm. Behaviours linked to issues such as drug taking, alcohol abuse, deliberately missing education and sexting (also known as youth produced sexual imagery) put children in danger.

All staff should be aware that safeguarding issues can manifest themselves via peer on peer abuse (see Appendix A).

Safeguarding incidents and/or behaviours can be associated with factors outside the school and/or can occur between children outside the school. All staff, especially the DSL (or deputy), should be considering the context within which such incidents and/or behaviours occur. This is known as contextual safeguarding. The school assesses the risks and issues in the wider community when considering the well-being and safety of its pupils. It is important that staff provide as much information as possible as part of the referral process. Additional information regarding contextual safeguarding can be found here: [Contextual Safeguarding](#)

Further information about specific forms of abuse and safeguarding issues can be found in Appendix A. All staff should familiarise themselves with this.

## **8. Curriculum**

The governing body will ensure that children and young people are taught about safeguarding, including online safety, through various teaching and learning opportunities, as part of providing a broad and balanced curriculum. Children are taught to recognise when they are at risk and how to get help when they need it.

This may include covering relevant issues through Relationships Education and Relationships and Sex Education (also known as Sex and Relationship Education) and through Personal, Social, Health and Economic education (PHSE).

The governing body ensures there is a comprehensive curriculum response to online safety issues, enabling children and young people and their parents to learn about the risks of new technologies, communication and social media and how to use these responsibly.

## **9. Online safety**

The use of technology has become a significant component of many safeguarding issues, for example, technology often provides the platform that facilitates child sexual exploitation, radicalisation and sexual predation.

There are three categories of risk:

- Content: being exposed to illegal, inappropriate or harmful material, for example, pornography, inaccurate 'fake' news, racist or radical and extremist views
- Contact: being exposed to harmful online interaction with other users, for example, commercial advertising as well as adults posing as children or young adults
- Conduct: personal online behaviour that increases the likelihood of, or causes, harm, for example, making, sending and receiving explicit images, or online bullying.

When pupils use the school's network to access the internet, they are protected from inappropriate content by the school's filtering and monitoring systems.

The governing body has due regard to the additional information and support set out in KCSiE and ensures that the school has a whole school approach to online safety and a clear policy on use of communications technology in school.

School staff can access resources, information and support as set out in Annex C of KCSiE.

## **10. Procedures**

If staff notice any indicators of abuse/neglect or signs that a child or young person may be experiencing a safeguarding issue they should record their concerns on a school recording form for safeguarding concerns and pass it to the DSL without delay. A suggested recording form is included at Appendix B

### **What to do if you are concerned.**

If a child makes an allegation or disclosure of abuse against an adult or other child or young person, it is important that you:

- Stay calm and listen carefully
- Accept what is being said
- Allow the child/young person to talk freely – do not interrupt or put words in the child/young person's mouth
- Only ask questions when necessary to clarify, do not investigate or ask leading questions
- Reassure the child, but do not make promises which it might not be possible to keep
- Do not promise confidentiality
- Emphasise that it was the right thing to tell someone
- Reassure them that what has happened is not their fault
- Do not criticise the perpetrator
- Explain what has to be done next and who has to be told
- Make a written record, which should be signed and include the time, date and your position in school
- Do not include your opinion without stating it is your opinion
- Pass the information to the DSL or deputy without delay
- Consider seeking support for yourself and discuss this with the DSL as dealing with a disclosure can be distressing

When a record of a safeguarding concern is passed to the DSL or deputy, they will record the time and date the record of concern was received. The DSL will assess the concern and, taking into account any other safeguarding information known about the child/young person, consider whether it suggests that the threshold of significant harm, or risk of significant harm, has been reached. If the DSL is unsure whether the threshold has been met they will contact the MASH Professional Consultation Line for advice (0345 606 1499). Where appropriate, the DSL will complete and submit the SSCB multi agency referral form (MARF) ([available on the SSCB website](#))<sup>2</sup>.

Where the DSL believes that a child or young person may be in imminent or significant risk of harm, they should call Customer First immediately and complete the SSCB MARF within 24 hours to confirm the referral. In these circumstances, it is important that any consultation should not delay a referral to Customer First.

Where a safeguarding concern does not meet the threshold for completion of a MARF, the DSL should record how this decision has been reached and should consider whether additional needs of the child have been identified that might be met by a coordinated offer of early help.

School staff might be required to contribute to multi-agency plans to provide additional support to children. This might include attendance at child protection conferences or core group meetings. The school is committed to providing as much relevant up to date information about the child as possible, including submitting reports for child protection conferences in advance of the meeting in accordance with SSCB procedures and timescales.

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<sup>2</sup> NB The exception to this process will be in those cases of known FGM where there is a mandatory requirement for the teacher to report directly to the police, although the DSL should also be made aware.

School staff must ensure that they are aware of the procedure to follow when a child goes missing from education. Further information can be found in Appendix A.

## **11. Information sharing, record keeping and confidentiality**

Information sharing is vital in identifying and tackling all forms of abuse.

As part of meeting a child's needs, the school understands that it is critical to recognise the importance of information sharing between professionals and local agencies and will contribute to multi-agency working in line with Working Together to Safeguard Children. Where there are concerns about the safety of a child, the sharing of information in a timely and effective manner between organisations can reduce the risk of harm. Whilst the Data Protection Act 2018 and GDPR places duties on organisations and individuals to process personal information fairly and lawfully, it is not a barrier to sharing information where the failure to do so would result in a child or vulnerable adult being placed at risk of harm. This includes allowing practitioners to share information without consent. Similarly, human rights concerns, such as respecting the right to a private and family life would not prevent information sharing where there are safeguarding concerns. Staff should not assume a colleague or another professional will take action and share information that might be critical in keeping children safe. Staff will have regard to the Government guidance: [Information sharing: advice for practitioners providing safeguarding services](#) which supports staff who have to make decisions about sharing information. This advice includes the seven golden rules for sharing information and considerations with regard to the Data Protection Act 2018 and General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR). If in doubt about sharing information, staff should speak to the DSL or deputy.

Well-kept records are essential to good safeguarding and child protection practice. All concerns, discussions and decisions made and the reasons for those decisions should be recorded promptly on a safeguarding concern form in writing (see Appendix B). Forms, which should be written in black ink, should be signed, dated and delivered to Mr Godfrey or Miss Milk. In their absence, concern forms should be handed to the deputy DSL's. Concern forms are available in the staffroom. If in doubt about recording requirements, staff should discuss with the DSL.

The school will have regard to SCC [Guidance for schools on maintaining and transferring pupil safeguarding/child protection records](#).

The DSL will ensure that where there is a safeguarding file for a child/young person who has moved to another school, the file will be transferred for the attention of the DSL at the receiving school as soon as possible. The file will be transferred using whatever method the school, i.e. the 'data handler', considers to be the most secure and appropriate in the circumstances to minimise the risk of any data breach.

If it is necessary to send the file by post, it will be sent using recorded delivery. Electronic files will only be transferred using a secure electronic transfer mechanism or after the file has been encrypted. The school will ensure that a receipt is obtained from the new school or setting for any file that is transferred.

The school recognises that confidentiality should be maintained in respect of all matters relating to child protection. Information on individual child protection cases may be shared by the DSL or deputy with other relevant members of staff. This will be on a 'need to know' basis and where it is in the child's best interests to do so.

A member of staff must never guarantee confidentiality to anyone about a safeguarding concern (including parents / carers or pupils), or promise a child to keep a secret which might compromise the child's safety or wellbeing.

The school will always undertake to share its intention to refer a child to Social Care with the child's parents or carers unless to do so could put the child at greater risk of harm, or impede a criminal investigation. If in doubt, staff will consult with the MASH Professional Consultation Line on this point.

## **12. Managing allegations made against members of staff or volunteers**

The school will follow the SSCB [Arrangements for Managing Allegations of Abuse Against People Who Work With Children or Those Who Are in A Position of Trust](#) if an allegation is made against an adult in a position of trust.

An allegation is any information which indicates that a member of staff /volunteer may have:

- behaved in a way that has harmed a child
- possibly committed a criminal offence against or related to a child
- behaved towards a child or children in a way that indicates he/she may pose a risk of harm to children.

This applies to any child the member of staff/volunteer has contact with in their personal, professional or community life. It also applies regardless of whether the alleged abuse took place in our school.

If any member of staff has concerns that a colleague or volunteer might pose a risk to children, it is their duty to report these to the headteacher. Where the concerns or allegations are about the headteacher, these should be referred to the trust chief executive officer (see p7).

The headteacher/trust chief executive officer should report the concern to the Local Authority Designated Officer (LADO) within one working day.

The corporate director for Health, Wellbeing and Children's Services, has identified dedicated staff to undertake the role of LADO. LADOs can be contacted via email on [LADOCentral@suffolk.qcsx.gov.uk](mailto:LADOCentral@suffolk.qcsx.gov.uk) or by using the LADO central telephone number: **0300 123 2044** for allegations against all staff and volunteers.

## **13. Whistleblowing**

The governing body recognises that children cannot be expected to raise concerns in an environment where staff fail to do so.

Whistleblowing is 'making a disclosure in the public interest' and occurs when a worker (or member of the wider school community) raises a concern about danger or illegality that affects others, for example, pupils in the school or members of the public.

All staff should be aware of their duty to raise concerns, where they exist, about the management of child protection, which may include the attitude or actions/inaction of colleagues, poor or unsafe practice and potential failures in the school's safeguarding arrangements. Examples could include:

- a criminal offence has been committed, is being committed or is likely to be committed
- an legal obligation has been breached
- there has been a miscarriage of justice
- the health or safety of any individual has been endangered
- the environment has been damaged
- information about any of the above has been concealed

The governing body would wish for everyone in the school community to feel able to report any child protection/safeguarding concerns through existing procedures within the school. However, for members of staff who do not feel able to raise such concerns internally, there is a NSPCC whistleblowing helpline. Staff can call 0800 028 0285 (line available from 8.00am to 8.00pm, Monday to Friday) or email: [help@nspcc.org.uk](mailto:help@nspcc.org.uk)

## **14. Disqualification by Association**

Relationships and associations that staff have in school and outside, including online, may have an implication for the safeguarding of children in the school. Where this is the case, the member of staff must speak to the school. For staff working in childcare provision or who are directly concerned with the management of such provision, the school will ensure that appropriate checks are carried out to ensure that individuals are not disqualified under the Childcare (Disqualification) Regulations 2009.

The Data Protection Act 2018 and GDPR do not prevent, or limit, the sharing of information for the purposes of keeping children safe. This includes allowing practitioners to share information without consent.

## **15. Useful Contacts:**

Multi-agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) Professional Helpline: 0345 606 1499

Customer First (Professional Referral Line) for use in emergencies only: 0345 606 6167

Customer First: 0808 800 4005

Police (emergency only): 999

Suffolk Police main switchboard: 01473 613500

Suffolk Police Cybercrime Unit: 101

Suffolk Local Safeguarding Children Board [www.suffolkscb.org.uk](http://www.suffolkscb.org.uk)

Suffolk County Council: [www.suffolk.gov.uk/community-and-safety/staying-safe-online/e-safer-suffolk/](http://www.suffolk.gov.uk/community-and-safety/staying-safe-online/e-safer-suffolk/)

## 16. Appendix A

**Further information on specific safeguarding issues** (source: Annex A, KCSiE)

### **Children and the court system**

Children are sometimes required to give evidence in criminal courts, either for crimes committed against them or for crimes they have witnessed. There are two age appropriate guides to support children [5-11 year olds](#) and [12-17 year olds](#).

They explain each step of the process and support and special measures that are available. There are diagrams illustrating the courtroom structure and the use of video links is explained.

Making child arrangements via the family courts following separation can be stressful, especially for children, and entrench conflict in families. The Ministry of Justice has launched an online child arrangements information tool with clear and concise information on the dispute resolution service.

<http://www.nationalcrimeagency.gov.uk/about-us/what-we-do/specialist-capabilities/uk-human-trafficking-centre/national-referral-mechanism>.

This may be useful for some parents and carers.

### **Children missing from education (CME)**

All staff should be aware that children going missing, particularly repeatedly, can act as a vital warning sign of a range of safeguarding possibilities. This may include abuse and neglect leading to sexual abuse, exploitation and child criminal exploitation. It may indicate mental health problems, risk of substance abuse, risk of travelling to a conflict zone, risk of female genital mutilation or forced marriage. Early intervention is necessary in order to identify the existence of any underlying safeguarding risk and to help prevent the risk of a child going missing in future. Staff should be aware of the school's unauthorised absence and children missing from education procedures and communicate any concerns immediately to the Attendance Lead or Designated Safeguarding Lead.

We monitor attendance carefully and address poor or irregular attendance without delay. We will always follow up with parents/carers when pupils are not at school. This means we need to have a least two up to date contacts numbers for parents/carers. Parents should remember to update the school as soon as possible if the numbers change.

In response to the guidance in Keeping Children Safe in Education (2018) the school has:

1. Staff who understand what to do when children do not attend regularly
2. Appropriate policies, procedures and responses for pupils who go missing from education (especially on repeat occasions)
3. Staff who know the signs and triggers for travelling to conflict zones, FGM and forced marriage
4. Procedures to inform the local authority when we plan to take pupils off-roll when they:
  - a. leave school to be home educated (EHE)
  - b. move away from the school's location

- c. remain medically unfit beyond compulsory school age
- d. are in custody for four months or more (and will not return to school afterwards); or
- e. are permanently excluded
- f. school nursery child who does not get a place in Reception at the school
- g. child has died
- h. school and LA not able to locate the child after 20 days
- i. deletion due to Leave of Absence
- j. where a child is dual registered and becomes single registered
- l. moved to another school
- m. school attendance order has named a different school or family decide to EHE whilst subject to SAO

We will ensure that pupils who are expected to attend the school, but fail to take up the place will be referred to the local authority and Education Welfare Officer.

When a pupil leaves the school, we will record the name of the pupil's new school and their expected start date. The Attendance Lead will implement the updated CME guidelines issued from Suffolk County Council (September 2018) to ensure correct procedures are followed.

### **Children with family members in prison**

Approximately 200,000 children have a parent sent to prison each year. These children are at risk of poor outcomes including poverty, stigma, isolation and poor mental health. NICCO provides information designed to support professionals working with offenders and their children, to help mitigate negative consequences for those children.

### **Child sexual exploitation (CSE)**

Child sexual exploitation is a form of sexual abuse. It occurs when 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. Child sexual exploitation does not always involve physical contact: it can also occur through the use of technology. Like all forms of child sex abuse, child sexual exploitation:

- can affect any child or young person (male or female) under the age of 18 years, including 16 and 17 year olds who can legally consent to have sex
- can still be abuse even if the sexual activity appears consensual
- can include both contact (penetrative and non-penetrative acts) and non-contact sexual activity
- can take place in person or via technology, or a combination of both
- can involve force and/or enticement-based methods of compliance and may, or may not, be accompanied by violence or threats of violence
- may occur without the child or young person's immediate knowledge (e.g. through others copying videos or images they have created and posted on social media)
- can be perpetrated by individuals or groups, males or females, and children or adults. The abuse can be a one-off occurrence or a series of incidents over time, and range from opportunistic to complex organised abuse; and

- is typified by some form of power imbalance in favour of those perpetrating the abuse. Whilst age may seem the most obvious, this imbalance can also be due to a range of other factors including gender, sexual identity, cognitive ability, physical strength, status, and access to economic or other resources.

Some of the following signs may be indicators of child sexual exploitation:

- children who appear with unexplained gifts or new possessions
- gang-association and/or isolation from peers/social networks
- children who have older boyfriends or girlfriends
- relationships with controlling or significantly older individuals or groups
- evidence/suspicions of physical or sexual assault
- children who suffer from sexually transmitted infections or become pregnant
- frequenting areas known for sex work
- children who suffer from changes in emotional well-being
- children who misuse drugs and alcohol
- children who go missing for periods of time or regularly come home late
- children who regularly miss school or education or do not take part in education.
- excessive receipt of texts/phone calls
- concerning use of the internet or other social media
- increasing secretiveness around behaviours
- self-harm or significant changes in emotional well-being

Although the following vulnerabilities increase the risk of child sexual exploitation, it must be remembered that not all children with these indicators will be exploited. Child sexual exploitation can occur without any of these issues. Potential vulnerabilities include:

- having a prior experience of neglect, physical and/or sexual abuse
- lack of a safe/stable home environment, now or in the past (examples might include domestic violence or parental substance misuse, mental health issues or criminality)
- recent bereavement or loss
- social isolation or social difficulties
- absence of a safe environment to explore sexuality
- economic vulnerability
- homelessness or insecure accommodation status
- connections with other children and young people who are being sexually exploited
- family members or other connections involved in adult sex work
- having a physical or learning disability
- being in care (particularly those in residential care and those with interrupted care histories)
- sexual identity

More information can be found in:

[Child sexual exploitation: Definition and a guide for practitioners \(DfE 2017\)](#)

### **Child criminal exploitation: county lines**

Criminal exploitation of children is a geographically widespread form of harm that is a typical feature of county lines criminal activity: drug networks or gangs groom and exploit children and young people to carry drugs and money from urban areas to suburban and rural areas, market and seaside towns. Key to identifying potential involvement in county

lines are missing episodes, when the victim may have been trafficked for the purpose of transporting drugs and a referral to the National Referral Mechanism<sup>3</sup> should be considered. Like other forms of abuse and exploitation, county lines exploitation:

- can affect any child or young person (male or female) under the age of 18 years
- can affect any vulnerable adult over the age of 18 years
- can still be exploitation even if the activity appears consensual
- can involve force and/or enticement-based methods of compliance and is often accompanied by violence or threats of violence
- can be perpetrated by individuals or groups, males or females, and young people or adults;
- is typified by some form of power imbalance in favour of those perpetrating the exploitation. Whilst age may seem the most obvious, this power imbalance can also be due to a range of other factors including gender, cognitive ability, physical strength, status, and access to economic or other resources.

## **Domestic abuse**

The definition of domestic violence and 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
- emotional

Exposure to domestic abuse and/or violence can have a serious, long lasting emotional and psychological impact on children. In some cases, a child may blame themselves for the abuse or may have had to leave the family home as a result. Domestic abuse affecting young people can also occur within their personal relationships, as well as in the context of their home life.

Advice on identifying children who are affected by domestic abuse and how they can be helped is available at:

[NSPCC-UK domestic-abuse signs symptoms effects](#)

[Refuge what is domestic violence/effects of domestic violence on children](#)

[Safelives: young people and domestic abuse](#)

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<sup>3</sup> [National crime agency human-trafficking  
http://www.nationalcrimeagency.gov.uk/about-us/what-we-do/specialist-capabilities/uk-human-trafficking-centre/national-referral-mechanism](http://www.nationalcrimeagency.gov.uk/about-us/what-we-do/specialist-capabilities/uk-human-trafficking-centre/national-referral-mechanism)

## Homelessness

Being homeless or at risk of becoming homeless presents a real risk to a child's welfare. The designated safeguarding lead and deputy should be aware of contact details and referral routes in to the Local Housing Authority so they can raise/progress concerns at the earliest opportunity. Indicators that a family may be at risk of homelessness include household debt, rent arrears, domestic abuse and anti-social behaviour, as well as the family being asked to leave a property. Whilst referrals and/or discussion with the Local Housing Authority should be progressed as appropriate, this does not, and should not, replace a referral into children's social care where a child has been harmed or is at risk of harm.

The Homelessness Reduction Act 2017 places a new legal duty on English councils so that everyone who is homeless or at risk of homelessness will have access to meaningful help including an assessment of their needs and circumstances, the development of a personalised housing plan, and work to help them retain their accommodation or find a new place to live. The following factsheets usefully summarise the new duties: [Homeless Reduction Act Factsheets](#). The new duties shift focus to early intervention and encourage those at risk to seek support as soon as possible, before they are facing a homelessness crisis.

## So-called 'honour-based' violence

So-called honour-based violence (HBV) encompasses incidents or crimes which have been committed to protect or defend the honour of the family and/or the community, including female genital mutilation (FGM), forced marriage, and practices such as breast ironing. Abuse committed in the context of preserving "honour" often involves a wider network of family or community pressure and can include multiple perpetrators. It is important to be aware of this dynamic and additional risk factors when deciding what form of safeguarding action to take. All forms of HBV are abuse (regardless of the motivation) and should be handled and escalated as such. Professionals in all agencies, and individuals and groups in relevant communities, need to be alert to the possibility of a child being at risk of HBV, or already having suffered HBV.

## Actions

If staff have a concern regarding a child that might be at risk of or who has suffered from HBV, they should speak to the DSL or deputy. As appropriate, they will activate local safeguarding procedures, using existing national and local protocols for multi-agency liaison with police and children's social care. Where FGM has taken place, since 31 October 2015 there has been a mandatory reporting duty placed on **teachers**<sup>4</sup> that requires a different approach (see following section).

## Female Genital Mutilation (FGM)

Female genital mutilation (FGM) comprises all procedures involving partial or total removal of the external female genitalia or other injury to the female genital organs. The practice is illegal in the UK and a form of child abuse with long-lasting harmful consequences. FGM typically takes place between birth and around 15 years old; however, it is believed that the majority of cases happen between the ages of 5 and 8.

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<sup>4</sup> Under Section 5B(11)(a) of the Female Genital Mutilation Act 2003, "teacher" means, in relation to England, a person within section 141A(1) of the Education Act 2002 (persons employed or engaged to carry out teaching work at schools and other institutions in England).

Risk factors for FGM include:

- low levels of integration into UK society
- a mother or a sister who has undergone FGM
- girls who are withdrawn from PSHE or PE
- a visiting female elder from the country of origin
- being taken on a long holiday to the country of origin
- talk about a 'special' procedure to become a woman

### **Symptoms of FGM**

FGM may be likely if there is a visiting female elder, talk of a special procedure or celebration to become a woman, parents who wish to take their daughter out of school to visit an 'at-risk' country (especially before the summer holidays), or parents who wish to withdraw their children from learning about FGM.

Indications that FGM may have already taken place may include:

- difficulty walking, sitting or standing and/or a look of discomfort
- spending longer than normal in the bathroom or toilet due to difficulties urinating
- spending long periods of time away from the classroom during the day with bladder or menstrual problems
- frequent urinary, menstrual or stomach problems
- prolonged or repeated absences from school, especially with noticeable behaviour changes (e.g. withdrawal or depression) on the girl's return
- reluctance to undergo normal medical examinations
- confiding in a professional without being explicit about the problem due to embarrassment or fear
- talking about pain or discomfort between the legs

### **FGM mandatory reporting duty for teachers**

Section 5B of the Female Genital Mutilation Act 2003 (as inserted by section 74 of the Serious Crime Act 2016) places a statutory duty upon **teachers** along with regulated health and social care professionals in England and Wales, to report to the police where they discover, either through disclosure by the victim or visual evidence, that FGM appears to have been carried out on a girl under 18. Those failing to report such cases will face disciplinary sanctions. It will be rare for teachers to see visual evidence and they should **not** be examining pupils, but the same definition of what is meant by "to discover that an act of FGM appears to have been carried out" is used for all professionals to whom this mandatory reporting duty applies. Information on when and how to make a report can be found at: [Mandatory reporting of female genital mutilation procedural information](#).

Teachers **must** personally report to the police cases where they discover that an act of FGM appears to have been carried out.<sup>5</sup> Unless the teacher has good reason not to, they should still consider and discuss any such case with the school's DSL or deputy and involve children's social care as appropriate. The duty does not apply in relation to at risk or suspected cases (i.e. where the teacher does not discover that an act of FGM appears to have been carried out, either through disclosure by the victim or visual evidence) or in

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<sup>5</sup> Section 5B(6) of the Female Genital Mutilation Act 2003 states teachers need not report a case to the police if they have reason to believe that another teacher has already reported the case.

cases where the woman is 18 or over. The following is a useful summary of the FGM mandatory reporting duty: [FGM Fact Sheet](#).

Learning support assistants, other support and office staff should report cases to the DSL or deputy as soon as possible.

### **Forced marriage**

Forcing a person into marriage is a crime in England and Wales. A forced marriage is one entered into without the full and free consent 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. Nevertheless, some communities use religion and culture as a way to coerce a person into marriage. Schools can play an important role in safeguarding children from forced marriage.

The Forced Marriage Unit has published statutory guidance and multi-agency guidelines, pages 35-36 of which focus on the role of schools. School staff can contact the Forced Marriage Unit if they need advice or information: Contact: 020 7008 0151 or email [fm@fco.gov.uk](mailto:fm@fco.gov.uk).

### **Preventing radicalisation**

Children are vulnerable to extremist ideology and radicalisation. Similar to protecting children from other forms of harm and abuse, protecting children from this risk is part of the school's safeguarding approach.

[Extremism](#)<sup>6</sup> is the vocal or active opposition to our fundamental values, including the rule of law, individual liberty and the mutual respect and tolerance of different faiths and beliefs. This also includes calling for the death of members of the armed forces.

[Radicalisation](#)<sup>7</sup> refers to the process by which a person comes to support terrorism and extremist ideologies associated with terrorist groups.

There is no single way of identifying whether a child is likely to be susceptible to an extremist ideology. Background factors combined with specific influences such as family and friends may contribute to a child's vulnerability. Similarly, radicalisation can occur through many different methods and settings, such as social media and the internet.

However, it is possible to protect vulnerable people and intervene to prevent those at risk of radicalisation being radicalised. As with other safeguarding risks, staff should be alert to changes in children's behaviour which could indicate that they may be in need of help or protection. Staff should use their judgement in identifying children who may be at risk of radicalisation and act proportionately which may include the DSL making a referral to the Channel programme.

Where staff are concerned that children and young people are developing extremist views or show signs of becoming radicalised, they should discuss this with the DSL. The DSL has

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<sup>6</sup> As defined in the Government's Counter Extremism Strategy

<sup>7</sup> As defined in the Revised Prevent Duty Guidance for England and Wales

received training about the Prevent Duty and tackling extremism and is able to support staff with any concerns they may have.

We use the curriculum to ensure that children and young people understand how people with extreme views share these with others, especially using the internet. We are committed to ensuring that our pupils are offered a broad and balanced curriculum that aims to prepare them for life in modern Britain. Teaching the school's core values, alongside the fundamental British values, supports quality teaching and learning, whilst making a positive contribution to the development of a fair, just and civil society.

### **Recognising Extremism**

Early indicators of radicalisation or extremism may include:

- showing sympathy for extremist causes
- glorifying violence, especially to other faiths or cultures
- making remarks or comments about being at extremist events or rallies outside school
- evidence of possessing illegal or extremist literature
- advocating messages similar to illegal organisations or other extremist groups
- out of character changes in dress, behaviour and peer relationships (but there are also very powerful narratives, programmes and networks that young people can come across online so involvement with particular groups may not be apparent.)
- secretive behaviour
- online searches or sharing extremist messages or social profiles
- intolerance of difference, including faith, culture, gender, race or sexuality
- graffiti, art work or writing that displays extremist themes
- attempts to impose extremist views or practices on others
- verbalising anti-Western or anti-British views
- advocating violence towards others

### **The Prevent duty**

All schools and colleges are subject to a duty under section 26 of the Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015, to have “due regard<sup>8</sup> to the need to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism”.<sup>9</sup> This is known as the Prevent duty.

The Prevent duty is part of the school's wider safeguarding obligations. The DSL and other senior leaders should familiarise themselves with the [Revised Prevent duty guidance: for England and Wales](#), especially paragraphs 57-76 which are specifically concerned with schools (and also covers childcare). The guidance is set out in terms of four general themes: risk assessment, working in partnership, staff training, and IT policies.

### **Additional support**

The department has published advice for schools on the [Prevent duty](#). The advice is intended to complement the Prevent guidance and signposts other sources of advice and support.

[Educate Against Hate](#), a website launched by Her Majesty's Government has been developed to support and equip school and college leaders, teachers, and parents with information, tools and resources (including on the promotion of fundamental British values)

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<sup>8</sup> According to the Prevent duty guidance 'having due regard' means that the authorities should place an appropriate amount of weight on the need to prevent people being drawn into terrorism when they consider all the other factors relevant to how they carry out their usual functions.

<sup>9</sup> “Terrorism” for these purposes has the same meaning as for the Terrorism Act 2000 (section 1(1) to (4) of that Act).

to help recognise and address extremism and radicalisation in young people. The platform provides information on and access to training resources for teachers, staff and school and college leaders, some of which are free such as Prevent e-learning, via the Prevent Training catalogue.

### **Channel**

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 schools to make referrals if they are concerned that an individual might be vulnerable to radicalisation. An individual's engagement with the programme is entirely voluntary at all stages. Guidance on Channel is available at: [Channel Guidance](#), and a Channel awareness e-learning programme is available for staff at: [Channel General Awareness](#).

The school's DSL and deputy should be aware of local procedures for making a Channel referral. As a Channel partner, the school may be asked to attend a Channel panel to discuss the individual referred to determine whether they are vulnerable to being drawn into terrorism and consider the appropriate support required.

### **Peer on peer abuse**

In most instances, misconduct of pupils towards each other will be covered by the behaviour and/or anti-bullying policies. We recognise however, that children are capable of abusing their peers and that some allegations may be of such a serious nature that they may raise safeguarding concerns. The school is clear that abuse is abuse and should never be tolerated or passed off as "banter", "just having a laugh" or "part of growing up".

Peer on peer abuse can manifest itself in many ways and may include:

- bullying, including cyberbullying
- physical abuse such as hitting, kicking, shaking, biting, hair pulling, or otherwise causing physical harm
- sexual violence and sexual harassment
- gender-based violence
- sexting (also known as youth produced sexual imagery)
- initiation-type violence and rituals

Different gender issues can be prevalent when dealing with peer on peer abuse. This could for example include girls being sexually touched/assaulted or boys being subject to initiation-type violence.

At Bungay Primary School we believe that all children have a right to learn in a safe environment. Children should be free from harm by adults in the school and other students. We recognise that some students will sometimes negatively affect the learning and wellbeing of others and their behaviour will be dealt with under the school's behaviour and/or anti-bullying policies, but this policy will apply to any allegations that raise safeguarding concerns. This might include where the alleged behaviour:

- is of a serious nature and is potentially a criminal offence
- could put pupils in the school at risk
- is violent
- involves pupils being forced to use drugs or alcohol
- involves sexual exploitation or sexual abuse, such as indecent exposure, sexual assault, or sexually inappropriate pictures or videos (including sexting)

It is likely that to be considered a safeguarding allegation against a pupil, some of the following features will be found.

The allegation:

- is made against an older pupil and refers to their behaviour towards a younger or more vulnerable pupil
- is of a serious nature, possibly including a criminal offence
- raises risk factors for other pupils in the school
- indicates that other pupils may have been affected by the student
- indicates that young people outside the school may be affected by the student

If a pupil makes an allegation of abuse against another pupil:

- the DSL must be informed and the allegation recorded but not investigated
- the DSL will contact the local authority children's social care team and follow its advice, as well as the police if the allegation involves a potential criminal offence
- the DSL will put a risk assessment and support plan into place for all children involved – both the victim(s) and the child(ren) against whom the allegation has been made – with a named person they can talk to if needed
- the DSL will contact the children and adolescent mental health services (CAMHS), if appropriate

We will minimise the risk of peer-on-peer abuse and support victims by:

- challenging any form of derogatory or sexualised language or behaviour
- being vigilant to issues that particularly affect different genders – for example, sexualised or aggressive touching or grabbing towards female pupils, and initiation or hazing type violence with respect to boys
- ensuring the curriculum helps to educate pupils about appropriate behaviour and consent
- ensuring pupils know they can talk to staff confidentially by raising concerns during check in circles, speaking to the teacher or self-referring to the pastoral team.
- ensuring staff are trained to understand that a pupil harming a peer could be a sign that the child is being abused themselves, and that this would fall under the scope of this policy

### **Sexting**

In cases of 'sexting' we follow guidance given to schools and colleges by the UK Council for Child Internet Safety (UKCCIS) published in 2017: 'Sexting in schools and colleges, responding to incidents, and safeguarding young people'.

### **Private Fostering**

A private fostering arrangement is one that is made privately (without the involvement of a local authority) for the care of a child under the age of 16 years (under 18, if disabled) by someone other than a parent or close relative, in their own home, with the intention that it should last for 28 days or more.

A close family relative is defined as a 'grandparent, brother, sister, uncle or aunt' and includes half-siblings and step-parents; it does not include great-aunts or uncles, great grandparents or cousins. Parents and private foster carers both have a legal duty to inform

the relevant local authority at least six weeks before the arrangement is due to start; not to do so is a criminal offence.

Whilst most privately fostered children are appropriately supported and looked after, they are a potentially vulnerable group who should be monitored by the local authority, particularly when the child has come from another country. In some cases privately fostered children are affected by abuse and neglect, or involved in trafficking, child sexual exploitation or modern-day slavery.

The school has a mandatory duty to report to the local authority where it is aware or suspects that a child is subject to a private fostering arrangement. Although the school has a duty to inform the local authority, there is no duty for anyone, including the private foster carer or social worker to inform the school. However, it should be clear to the school who has parental responsibility.

School staff should notify the DSL or deputy when they become aware of private fostering arrangements. The DSL or deputy will speak to the family of the child involved to check that they are aware of their duty to inform the LA. The school itself has a duty to inform the local authority of the private fostering arrangements.

On admission to the school, we will take steps to verify the relationship of the adults to the child who is being registered.

## **Sexual violence and sexual harassment between children in school**

### **Context**

Sexual violence and sexual harassment can occur between two children of **any** age and sex. It can also occur through a group of children sexually assaulting or sexually harassing a single child or group of children.

Children who are victims of sexual violence and sexual harassment will likely find the experience stressful and distressing. This will, in all likelihood, adversely affect their educational attainment. Sexual violence and sexual harassment exist on a continuum and may overlap; they can occur online and offline, both physical and verbal, and are never acceptable. It is important that **all** victims are taken seriously and offered appropriate support. Staff should be aware that some groups are potentially more at risk. Evidence shows girls, children with SEND and LGBT children are at greater risk.

Staff should be aware of the importance of:

- making clear that sexual violence and sexual harassment is not acceptable, will never be tolerated and is not an inevitable part of growing up
- not tolerating or dismissing sexual violence or sexual harassment as “banter”, “part of growing up”, “just having a laugh” or “boys being boys”
- challenging behaviours (potentially criminal in nature), such as grabbing bottoms, breasts and genitalia, flicking bras and lifting up skirts. Dismissing or tolerating such behaviours risk normalising them.

## What is sexual violence and sexual harassment?

### Sexual violence

It is important that school staff are aware of sexual violence and the fact children can, and sometimes do, abuse their peers in this way. When referring to sexual violence we are referring to sexual offences in the Sexual Offences Act 2003<sup>10</sup> as described below:

**Rape:** A person (A) commits an offence of rape if: he intentionally penetrates the vagina, anus or mouth of another person (B) with his penis, (B) does not consent to the penetration and (A) does not reasonably believe that (B) consents.

**Assault by Penetration:** A person (A) commits an offence if: s/he intentionally penetrates the vagina or anus of another person (B) with a part of her/his body or anything else, the penetration is sexual, (B) does not consent to the penetration and (A) does not reasonably believe that (B) consents.

**Sexual Assault:** A person (A) commits an offence of sexual assault if: s/he intentionally touches another person (B), the touching is sexual, (B) does not consent to the touching and (A) does not reasonably believe that (B) consents.

**What is consent?**<sup>11</sup> Consent is about having the freedom and capacity to choose. Consent to sexual activity may be given to one sort of sexual activity but not another, e.g. to vaginal but not anal sex or penetration with conditions, such as wearing a condom. Consent can be withdrawn at any time during sexual activity and each time activity occurs. Someone consents to vaginal, anal or oral penetration only if s/he agrees by choice to that penetration and has the freedom and capacity to make that choice.

### Sexual harassment

When referring to sexual harassment we mean 'unwanted conduct of a sexual nature' that can occur online and offline. When we reference sexual harassment, we do so in the context of child on child sexual harassment. Sexual harassment is likely to: violate a child's dignity, and/or make them feel intimidated, degraded or humiliated and/or create a hostile, offensive or sexualised environment.

Whilst not intended to be an exhaustive list, sexual harassment can include:

- sexual comments, such as: telling sexual stories, making lewd comments, making sexual remarks about clothes and appearance and calling someone sexualised names;
- sexual "jokes" or taunting;
- physical behaviour, such as: deliberately brushing against someone, interfering with someone's clothes (the school will consider when any of this crosses a line into sexual violence – it is important to talk to and consider the experience of the victim) and displaying pictures, photos or drawings of a sexual nature
- online sexual harassment. This may be standalone, or part of a wider pattern of sexual harassment and/or sexual violence.<sup>12</sup> It may include:
  - non-consensual sharing of sexual images and videos;
  - sexualised online bullying;
  - unwanted sexual comments and messages, including on social media;

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<sup>10</sup> [Legislation.gov.uk](http://legislation.gov.uk)

<sup>11</sup> It is important school staff (and especially DSLs and their deputies) understand consent. This will be especially important if a child is reporting they have been raped, More information [here](#)

<sup>12</sup> [Project deSHAME](#) from Childnet provides useful research, advice and resources regarding online sexual harassment.

- sexual exploitation, coercion and threats

### **The response to a report of sexual violence or sexual harassment**

The initial response to a report from a child is important. It is essential that all victims are reassured that they are being taken seriously and that they will be supported and kept safe. A victim should never be given the impression that they are creating a problem by reporting sexual violence or sexual harassment. Nor should a victim ever be made to feel ashamed for making a report.

If staff have a concern about a child or a child makes a report to them, they should follow the referral process as set out from paragraph 23 in Part 1 of KCSiE. As is always the case, if staff are in any doubt as to what to do they should speak to the DSL or deputy.

## Additional advice and support

Abuse or Safeguarding issue	Link to Guidance/Advice	Source
Abuse	<a href="#">What to do if you're worried a child is being abused</a>	DfE advice
	<a href="#">Domestic abuse: Various Information/Guidance</a>	Home Office
	<a href="#">Faith based abuse: National Action Plan</a>	DfE advice
	<a href="#">Relationship abuse: disrespect nobody</a>	Home Office website
Bullying	<a href="#">Preventing bullying including cyberbullying</a>	DfE advice
Children and the courts	<a href="#">Advice for 5-11 year old witnesses in criminal courts</a>	MoJ advice
	<a href="#">Advice for 12-17 year old witnesses in criminal courts</a>	MoJ advice
Children missing from education, home or care	<a href="#">Children missing education</a>	DfE statutory guidance
	<a href="#">Children missing from home or care</a>	DfE statutory guidance
	<a href="#">Children and adults missing strategy</a>	Home Office strategy
Children with family members in prison	<a href="#">National Information Centre on Children of Offenders</a>	Barnardo's in partnership with Her Majesty's Prison and Probation Service (HMPPS) advice
Child Exploitation	<a href="#">County Lines: criminal exploitation of children and vulnerable adults</a>	Home Office guidance
	<a href="#">Child sexual exploitation: guide for practitioners</a>	DfE
	<a href="#">Trafficking: safeguarding children</a>	DfE and HO guidance
Drugs	<a href="#">Drugs: advice for schools</a>	DfE and ACPO advice
	<a href="#">Drugs strategy 2017</a>	Home Office strategy
	<a href="#">Information and advice on drugs</a>	Talk to Frank website
	<a href="#">ADEPIS platform sharing information and resources for schools: covering drug (&amp; alcohol) prevention</a>	Website developed by Mentor UK
"Honour Based Violence"	<a href="#">Female genital mutilation: information and resources</a>	Home Office
	<a href="#">Female genital mutilation: multi agency statutory guidance</a>	DfE, DH, and HO statutory guidance
	<a href="#">Forced marriage: information and practice guidelines</a>	Foreign Commonwealth Office and Home Office
Health and Well-being	<a href="#">Fabricated or induced illness: safeguarding children</a>	DfE, Department for Health and Home Office
	<a href="#">Rise Above: Free PSHE resources on health, wellbeing and resilience</a>	Public Health England resources
	<a href="#">Medical conditions: supporting pupils at school</a>	DfE statutory guidance
	<a href="#">Mental health and behaviour</a>	DfE advice
Homelessness	<a href="#">Homelessness: How local authorities should exercise their functions</a>	HCLG
Online	<a href="#">Sexting: responding to incidents and safeguarding children</a>	UK Council for Child Internet Safety
Private fostering	<a href="#">Private fostering: local authorities</a>	DfE – statutory guidance
Radicalisation	<a href="#">Prevent duty guidance</a>	Home Office guidance
	<a href="#">Prevent duty advice for schools</a>	DfE advice
	<a href="#">Educate Against Hate Website</a>	DfE and Home Office
Violence	<a href="#">Gangs and youth violence: for schools and colleges</a>	Home Office advice
	<a href="#">Ending violence against women and girls 2016-2020 strategy</a>	Home Office strategy
	<a href="#">Violence against women and girls: national statement of expectations for victims</a>	Home Office guidance
	<a href="#">Sexual violence and sexual harassment between children in schools and colleges</a>	DfE advice
	<a href="#">Serious violence strategy</a>	Home Office Strategy

## 17. Appendix B Record of concern about a child/young person's safety and welfare

Part 1 (for use by any staff – must be handwritten, legible and written in black ink)

Pupil's name:		Date of birth:	Class/Form:
Date & time of incident:		Date & time of writing:	
Name (print): ..... Job title:.....			
Signature: .....			
Record the following factually: Nature of concern, e.g. disclosure, change in behaviour, demeanour, appearance, injury, witnesses etc. <i>(please include as much detail in this section as possible. Remember – the quality of your information will inform the level of intervention initiated. Attach additional sheets if necessary.</i>			
What is the pupil's perspective?			
Professional opinion, where relevant <i>(how and why might this have happened?)</i>			
Any other relevant information. Previous concerns etc. <i>(distinguish between fact and opinion)</i>			
Note actions, including names of anyone to whom your information was passed and when			

Check to make sure your report is clear to someone else reading it.

**Please pass this form to the DSL without delay**

## Record of concern about a child/young person's safety and welfare

### Part 2 (for use by DSL)

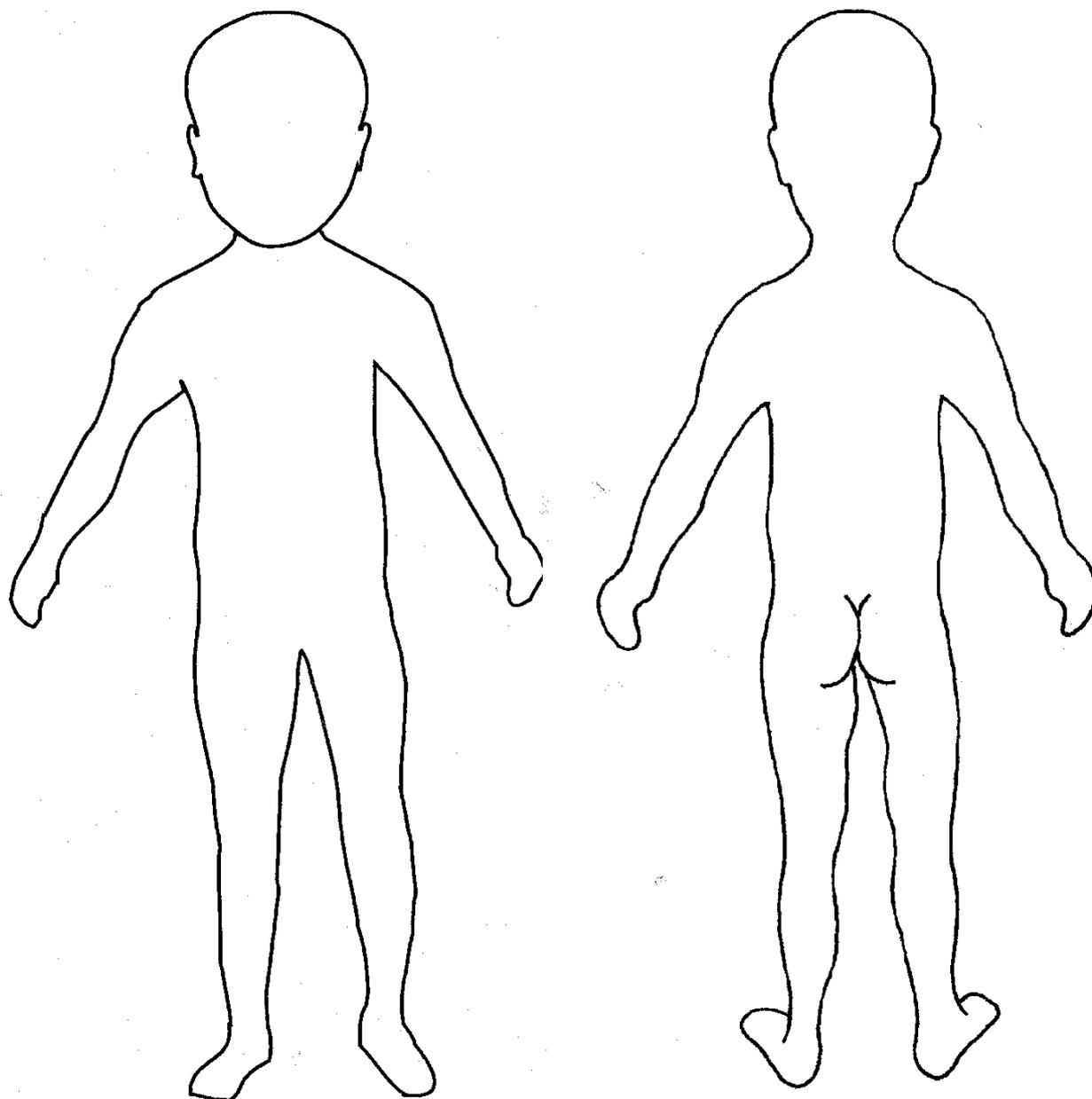
Information received by DSL:	Date:	Time completed:	From whom:		
Any advice <b>sought</b> , if applicable	Date:	Time completed:	From: name/organisation:		
	Advice received:				
Action taken with reasons recorded <i>(e.g. MARF completed, monitoring advice given to appropriate staff, CAF etc)</i>	Date:	Time completed:	By whom:		
Outcome	Date:	Time completed:	By whom:		
Parent/carer informed?	<b>Y</b>	Who spoken to:	Date:	Time:	By whom:
	<b>N</b>	Detail reason:			
Is any additional detail held, if so where?					
Prior safeguarding history	No. of previous records of concern:				
	Has the child been subject of CAF/Early Help assessment?				
	Currently on CP Plan (CPP) / Child in Need Plan (CiN)				
	Previously on CP Plan (CPP) / Child in Need Plan (CiN)				
	Is child known to other agencies?		Y / N		
Name of DSL:			Signature:		

## 18. Appendix C

### BODYMAP

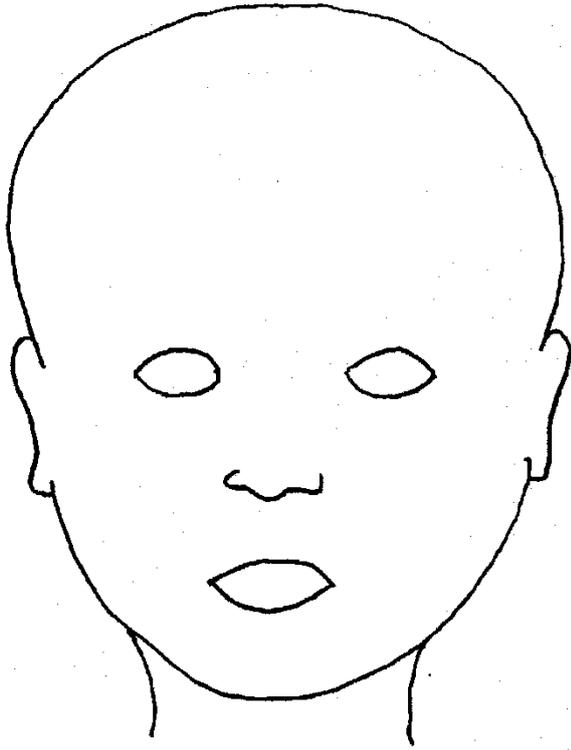
This must be completed at time of observation. Please indicate approximate size and description of the mark/s.

Name of Pupil:		Date of Birth:	
Name of Staff:		Job Title:	
Date and time of observation:			

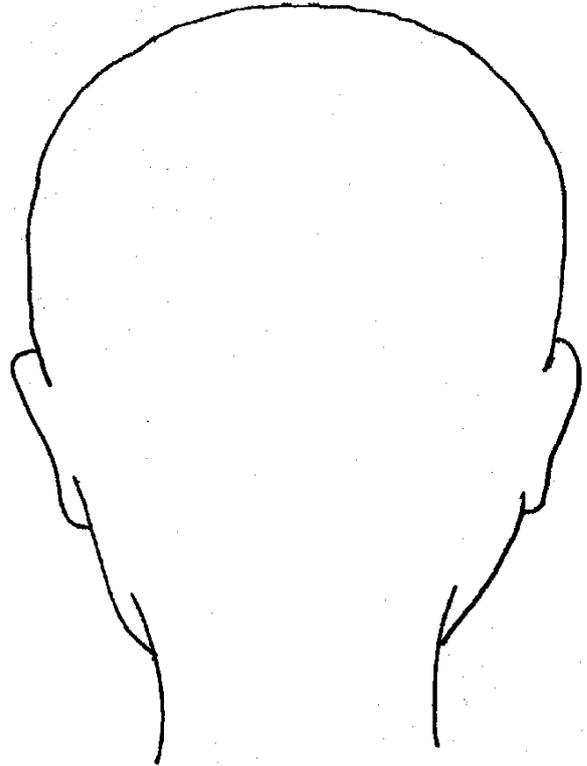


Name of pupil: \_\_\_\_\_

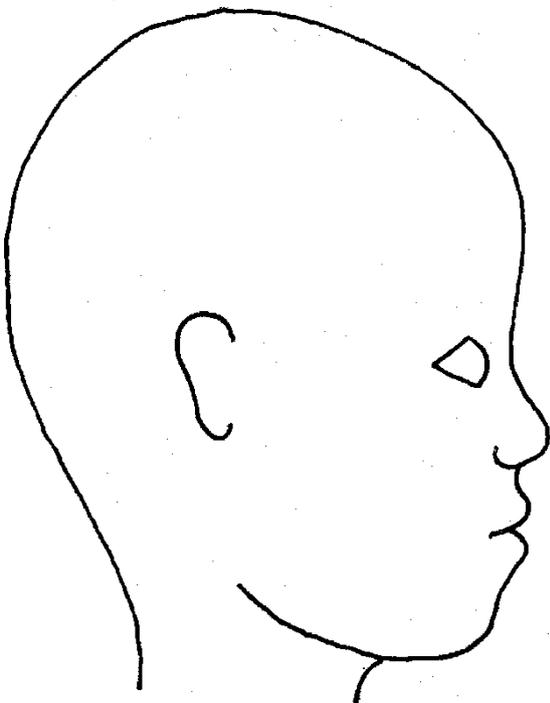
Date and time of observation: \_\_\_\_\_



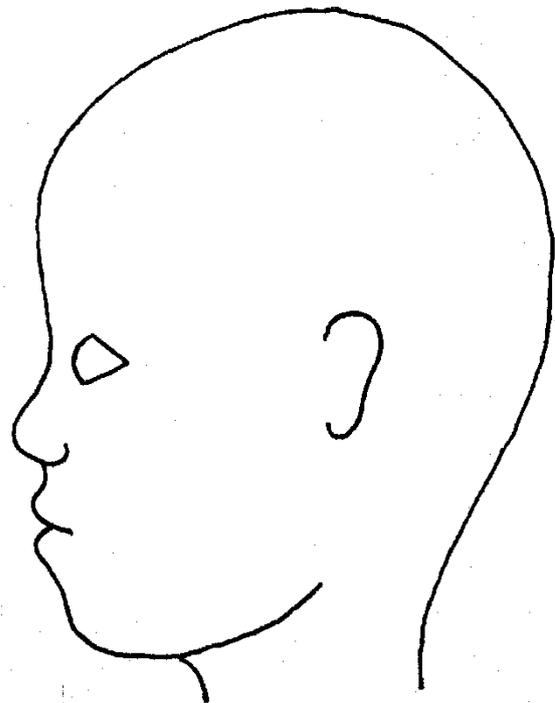
**FRONT**



**BACK**



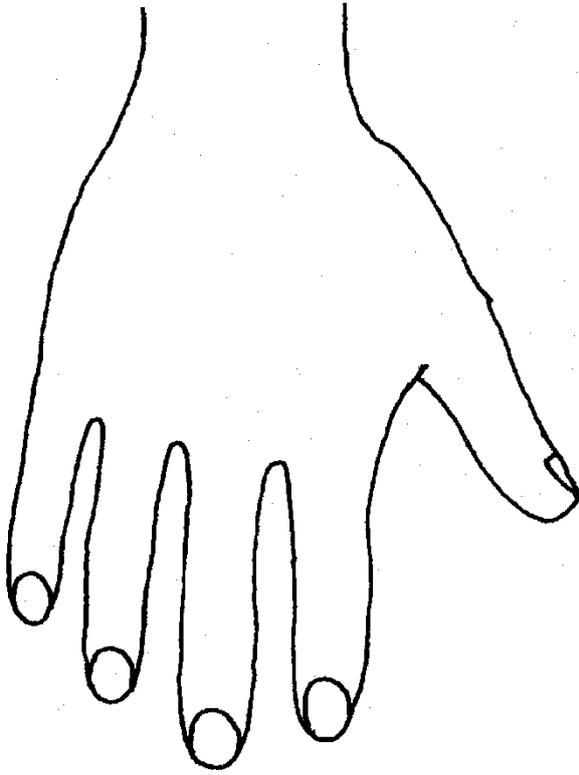
**RIGHT**



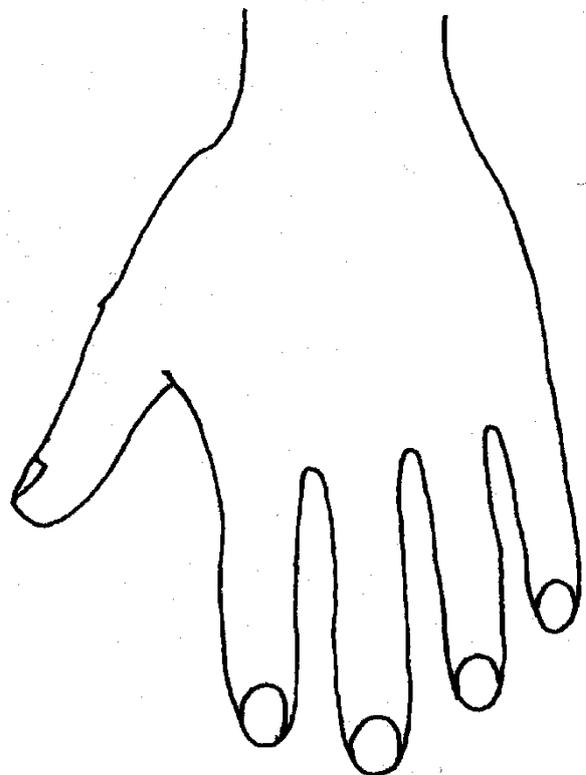
**LEFT**

Name of pupil:

Date and time of  
observation:

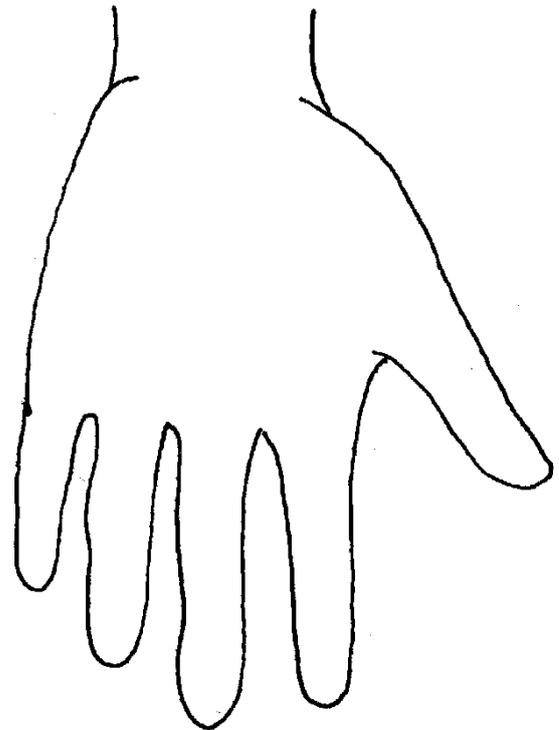


R



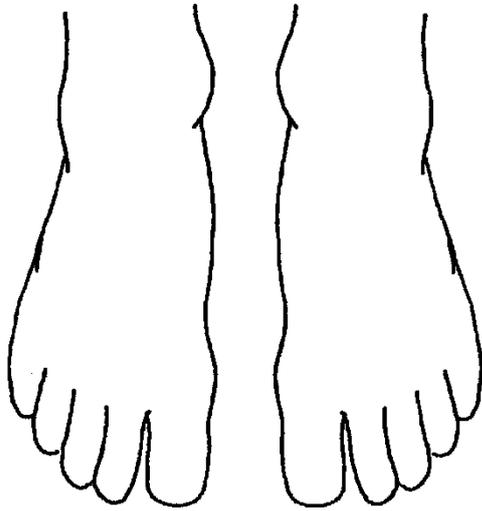
L

BACK

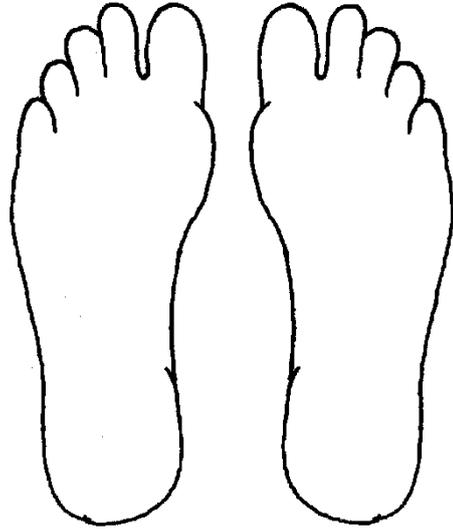


Name of Pupil: \_\_\_\_\_

Date and time of observation: \_\_\_\_\_



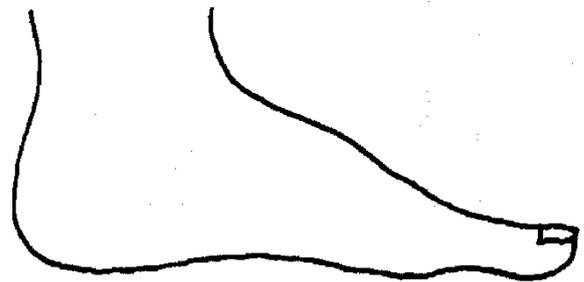
**R                      TOP                      L**



**R                      BOTTOM                      L**

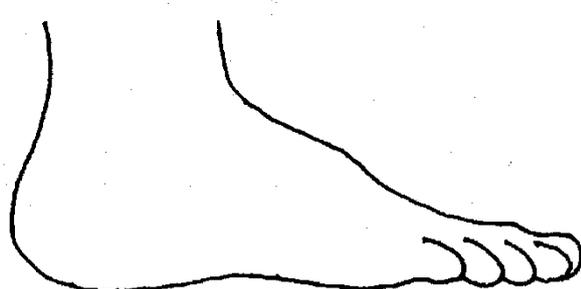


**R**



**L**

**INNER**



**R**



**L**

**OUTER**

Printed Name,  
Signature and Job  
title of staff: \_\_\_\_\_