

## **Chivenor Junior and Infants School**

### **CHILD PROTECTION POLICY**

#### **Context**

Behaviour Support is part of Inclusion Support within the Education Department and as such supports young people of statutory school age who have emotional and behavioural difficulties.

Staff work with pupils in a variety of contexts

- in ten Centres
- in mainstream schools
- on residential experiences

A high proportion of the young people in our care are vulnerable and therefore at risk. Raising awareness of Child Protection issues is therefore a priority both in staff development and in our work with other agencies.

#### **Principles**

We recognise that some children and young people may be the victims of neglect, physical, sexual or emotional abuse and that Behaviour Support staff by virtue of their day-to-day knowledge and contact with children are well placed to identify such abuse and offer support to children in need.

#### **Procedure**

The following procedures should be read in conjunction with Birmingham Safeguarding Board guidelines (blue ring binder folder in each centre marked Child Protection)

Also Child Protection Training for Head teachers and Designated senior teachers (Birmingham Health Education Unit)

- The Head of Key Stage is the DST (Designated Senior Teacher) responsible for Child Protection. The Senior Teacher deputises for the DST in case of absence.
- Child Protection concerns should always be given immediate priority. Delay is unacceptable.
- Concerns should always be discussed with the DST

- In the case of an allegation of abuse being made against a member of Centre staff, the DST should contact the Head of Service and the LEA representative for Child Protection issues. In the event of an allegation against Behaviour Support staff being made in the mainstream context, referral should be made to service guidelines.
- Staff should be aware and ensure that the young person is aware that any disclosure cannot remain confidential but must be passed on to the DST who will then make a decision who else needs the information.
- There is a legal requirement on staff to assist Local Authority Social Care departments acting on behalf of children where there have been allegations of child abuse.

### **Role of the Designated Senior Teacher for Child Protection**

All concerns about child protection should be passed to the DST (or the deputy if DST not present) urgently. (any concern about the DST should go to the Head of Service)

Concerns are recorded immediately using a standard format available in the CP folder

The DST is responsible for :-

- Liaison and links with other agencies, especially social workers
- Receiving concerns from staff about potential/actual abuse and giving appropriate advice
- Making referrals to Social Workers concerning children about whom there is a child protection concern
- Consulting with Social workers concerning children about whom there is a child protection concern
- Assisting in the referral of children "in need" who may not necessarily be in immediate risk of significant harm.
- Ensuring the Centre is represented at Child Protection conferences and assisting anyone else involved in preparing for Child Protection conferences.

The DST may nominate another member of staff to attend the CP case conference but must ensure they have previous knowledge of the case and understands their role as outlined by the DST.

- Maintenance of a register within the centre of children at risk (need to know basis)
- Ensuring dissemination of information about Child Protection procedures within the centre/service

- Assisting in dissemination of information about Child Protection cases within centre.

The SMT lead for Safeguarding will be responsible for co-ordination of Child Protection issues within Behaviour Support.

Chair of Governors

Date

Headteacher

Date

Review