

## Chivenor J&I School

### Safeguarding Policy

#### The law on safeguarding

The Department for Education and Skills (now the Department for Children, Schools and Families, or DCSF) produced guidance on safeguarding children that came into effect in January 2007.

Safeguarding Children and Safer Recruitment in Education was introduced as part of the Every Child Matters strategy. It outlines the law relating to the responsibilities of schools for safeguarding children. Section 175 of the Education Act 2002 requires local authorities (LAs) and governing bodies of schools to make arrangements to ensure that children are safeguarded and their welfare is promoted.

Schools must also have regard to any guidance issued by the secretary of state when deciding what arrangements to make to fulfil this requirement.

Other laws relate to the responsibilities of LAs, but are less relevant to schools.

#### [Section 175 of the Education Act 2002](http://www.opsi.gov.uk/acts/acts2002/ukpga_20020032_en_15#pt11-pb1-l1g175)

[http://www.opsi.gov.uk/acts/acts2002/ukpga\\_20020032\\_en\\_15#pt11-pb1-l1g175](http://www.opsi.gov.uk/acts/acts2002/ukpga_20020032_en_15#pt11-pb1-l1g175)

#### [Safeguarding Children and Safer Recruitment in Education \(Adobe pdf file\)](http://publications.teachernet.gov.uk/eOrderingDownload/Final%206836-SafeGuard.Chd%20bkmk.pdf)

<http://publications.teachernet.gov.uk/eOrderingDownload/Final%206836-SafeGuard.Chd%20bkmk.pdf>

#### Responsibilities of the Governing Body

Safeguarding Children and Safer Recruitment in Education states that the governing body has responsibility for safeguarding. It should ensure that:

- A child protection policy is in place and in accordance with LA guidance and locally agreed interagency procedures. This policy should be made available to parents on request
- The school operates safe recruitment procedures and makes sure that all appropriate checks are carried out on staff and volunteers who work with children
- The school's procedures for dealing with allegations of abuse against members of staff and volunteers comply with guidance from the local authority and locally agreed interagency procedures

## **A senior member of the school's leadership team is designated to take lead responsibility for dealing with child protection issues**

- A senior member of the school's leadership team is designated to take lead responsibility for dealing with child protection issues, providing advice and support to other staff, liaising with the local authority, and working with other agencies. (This need not be a teacher but must be someone senior within the school). This person should have a deputy to act in his or her absence. There should be a number of deputies in large schools or those with a large number of child protection concerns
- This person should have training provided or be approved by the local safeguarding children board and should have refresher training every two years
- The headteacher and all other staff who work with children should have appropriate training and refresher training every three years.
- Temporary staff and volunteers should be made aware of the school's arrangements for child protection

## **Responsibilities of the Headteacher**

Headteachers should ensure that:

- The policies and procedures adopted by the governing body are fully implemented and followed
- Sufficient resources and time are available to the designated person to discharge their responsibilities, such as taking part in strategy discussions and other interagency meetings and contributing to the assessment of children
- All staff and volunteers should feel able to raise concerns about poor or unsafe practice, and such concerns are addressed sensitively and effectively in accordance with agreed whistle blowing policies, where appropriate
- Any weaknesses or deficiencies in regard to child protection are remedied as soon as they are brought to their attention
- A member of the governing body is responsible for liaising with the LA and/or partner agencies in the event of the headteacher being accused
- Policies and procedures are reviewed annually, and information on how they are implemented is given to the LA

## **Recruitment requirements**

Safeguarding Children and Safer Recruitment in Education outlines the safeguarding requirements for recruiting new staff. It sets out the checks that need to be carried out for new recruits.

The school should also ensure that anyone who works with pupils outside the school, such as lecturers at a college attended by 14-16 year olds have had the relevant checks.

See Chapter 4 of the guidance for more information.

### **Changes to vetting and barring procedures from October 2009**

Changes to vetting and barring procedures are being introduced gradually from October 2009. For more information, please see this document from the Independent Safeguarding Authority (ISA) and an additional article from The Key.

[Vetting and barring scheme \(VBS\) update \(Adobe pdf file\)](#)

[http://www.isa-gov.org.uk/pdf/VBS\\_Stakeholder\\_newsletter-April2009.pdf](http://www.isa-gov.org.uk/pdf/VBS_Stakeholder_newsletter-April2009.pdf)

[Criminal Records Bureau \(CRB\) checks: staff and volunteers](#)

<http://www.usethekey.org.uk/pupils-and-parents/child-protection/crb-checks>