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1 Introduction

Key Personnel

Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL)	Jarka Toutonghi
Deputy Designated Person (DDP)	Justin Kilcullen-Nichols
Local Authority Contacts	Police (112)
Safeguarding Governor	Vera Komarova

1.1 Leonardo da Vinci Academy understands the importance of a robust safeguarding police, and as a school we take great care and time to ensure that we provide a safe and welcoming environment where children are respected and valued and feel safe, listened to and cared for. As well as working together as a school and team, we are also committed to working alongside other outside organisations to ensure arrangements are in place to assess, and support children who are at risk.

1.2 All staff within Leonardo da Vinci Academy have an active and key part to play in protecting and safeguarding all children within our care. We ensure that all teaching and non-teaching staff have the required knowledge and training in safeguarding and child protection courses, **which are reviewed annually.**

1.3 Our policy and training have been developed in accordance with the principles established by the following British Acts of Parliament:

The Children Acts 1989 and 2004

The Education Act 2002 and 2011

The Childcare Act 2006

The Prevent Duty 2015

Working Together to Safeguard Children 2018

Keeping Children Safe in Education 2021

We are actively staying in line with relevant government publications and the statutory framework for secondary education. Whilst as a school we are based in The Czech Republic, we actively and proudly follow the British School's Overseas standards.

2. Purpose

- Provide an environment in which children and young people feel safe, secure, valued, respected.
- Support the child's development in ways that will enrich security, confidence, independence and adaptability.
- To feel confident and know how to approach adults if they are in difficulty, knowing that they will be effectively listened to.
- Raise the awareness of all teaching and non-teaching staff of the need to take a full and active role in safeguarding and of their responsibilities in identifying and reporting possible safeguarding cases.

- Ensure all staff are aware that they have equal responsibility to act in accordance with this guidance on any suspicion or disclosure that may suggest a child is at risk of harm.
- Provide a structured and efficient way of monitoring children known or thought to be at risk of harm, and ensure we contribute to assessments of need and support plans for those children.
- The importance of the communication between all members of staff in relation to safeguarding pupils.
- Ensure that all adults within the Leonardo da Vinci Academy team, who have access to children have been security checked as to their suitability, including verification of their identity and their qualifications.
- Develop and promote effective working relationships with other agencies.
- Develop a structured procedure within the school which will be followed by all members of the school community in cases of suspected abuse.
- Develop and promote effective working relationships with other agencies.

3. Scope

3.1 Safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children within Leonardo da Vinci Academy includes

- protecting children from abuse or neglect
- preventing the impairment of their health or development
- ensuring that children grow up in circumstances consistent with the provision of safe, effective and nurturing care
- enabling children to have optimum life chances and to enter adulthood successfully.

3.2 Child protection refers to the processes undertaken to meet statutory obligations laid out in the Children Act 1989 and associated regulations and statutory guidance in respect of those children who have been identified as suffering, or being at risk of suffering harm.

3.3 Staff refers to all those working for or on behalf of the school, full time or part time, in either a paid or voluntary capacity, to which they will be required to complete mandatory training from our online course and face-to-face training

3.4 Child refers to all young people who have not yet reached their 18th birthday. However, whilst still in education, students who are older are still safeguarded and protected by the school and staff under safeguarding and child protection for adolescents. Every single child, regardless of age, gender, ability, culture, race, language, religion or sexual identity, has equal rights to protection.

3.5 The status of parent refers to birth parents, step-parents, foster carers and adoptive parents. All variations will need to have proof of relation to the child within the school.

4. Key Personnel and Responsibilities

4.1 The DSL is responsible for maintaining and updating the Safeguarding and Child Protection policy.

4.2 The Principal has overall responsibility for the internal management of the policy in the school.

4.3 The Proprietor will ensure that the safeguarding policy is upheld and that all appropriate and mandatory training requirements are undertaken. Any weaknesses in the policy will be rectified immediately as well as any new changes and updates in any legislation. The proprietor will also ensure that the school operates safer recruitment procedures and has procedures in place for dealing with allegations of abuse made against staff. The Proprietor is listed at the beginning of this document. The governing body will monitor all areas of Safeguarding and Child Protection.

4.6 The name of the Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL), and other members of staff responsible for Child Protection will be clearly advertised in the school. This is for staff and students, so they are aware of the safeguarding team and who they can go to in the event of them needing to disclose any concerns.

4.7 To meet and maintain our responsibilities towards our students, we need to agree standards of good practice for all staff.

Good practice includes:

- Being alert and aware of changes to a pupil's behaviour/ family circumstances, and recognising that changes can be an indicator/ reason for abuse.
- Reading and understanding the school's safeguarding and child protection policy and guidance documents on wider safeguarding issues such as bullying, behaviour, physical contact, and information sharing.
- Making sure that we keep available our safeguarding and child protection policy plus the UK government document "Keeping children safe in education 2021".
- Asking a pupil's permission before initiating physical contact, such as assistance with dressing (for early years), support during PE, or administering first aid.
- Referring all concerns about a pupil's safety and welfare to the Designated Safeguarding Lead or deputy, to which if necessary, they will directly contact the relevant outsource local authority and local Children's Social Care.
- Never to put a child at risk by contacting family unless instructed to do so by the DSL if in regards to any of the highlighted high risk key indicators for abuse or harm. If ever in doubt or concerned, talk to your safeguarding team.

4.8 Staff connected to the Academy are under an ongoing duty to inform the school if circumstances change which would mean they meet any of the criteria for disqualification under the Childcare Act 2006.

4.9 Community users, organising activities for children and any visitors that enter the building or have interaction with the students at Leonardo da Vinci Academy, are aware of and understand the need for compliance with the school's child protection guidelines and procedures, and will need to sign a declaration form in accordance with these guidelines and procedures.

4.10 Child protection concerns or allegations against adults working in the school are to be reported to the Principal, who will then liaise with the DSL. The DSL will only support if there

has been any harm or abuse that has come to a student. They may also help with gathering evidence for the investigation from students only, and this is to only be carried out after explicit instructions from The Principal. The Principal alongside the DSL (if needed or asked) will inform the Governors and if needed the police (contact details are listed at the beginning of this document). Any member of staff found not suitable to work with children will be reported to the Principal who will converse with the governors, to make a decision. If the concern is about the DSL, the Principal takes responsibility. Any concerns about the Principal Teacher falls under the responsibility of the Safeguarding Governor. All teachers must complete a security background check in line with our Safer Recruitment Policy.

4.11 All local and outside partners and support networks details are listed at the beginning of this document. Please see section 6 relating to any specific and more informative information on any safeguarding or child protection topics. The DSL is responsible for contacting and referring any concerns about a child's safety to the relevant local authorities.

4.12 Parents/carers are made aware of this policy and can access a copy of this policy on the Leonardo da Vinci Academy's website.

5 The Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) and Deputy Designated Person (DDP)

5.1 The Designated Safeguarding Lead holds ultimate responsibility for Child Protection and Safeguarding in the school.

5.2 The Designated Safeguarding Lead will act as a source of support and expertise to the school community and ensure all Safeguarding records are kept up-to-date and confidential.

5.3 The Designated Safeguarding Lead will refer a child if there are concerns about possible abuse to the Child Protection National Agency and is the main point of contact for staff to discuss concerns, which are to be reported to safeguarding@lvacademy.cz unless the child is in immediate harm.

5.4 The Designated Safeguarding Lead will ensure that notifications are made when a child with a child protection plan in place is absent without explanation for two days or that a notification is made when a child on a plan changes school.

5.5 The Designated Safeguarding Lead will develop strong and important relationships with the external agencies and liaise frequently with the Safeguarding Governor and Principal reporting on all areas of Safeguarding and Child Protection annually and for reviewing the policy.

5.6 The Designated Safeguarding Lead will have full authority with regards to the Local Safeguarding Children procedures and requirements.

5.7 All staff training in relation to Safeguarding will be organised regularly and annually by the Designated Safeguarding Lead.

5.8 The Designated Safeguarding Lead will promote educational outcomes by sharing information about the welfare, safeguarding and child protection issues that children are experiencing, or have experienced, with staff. This could be done by, for example, making sure that staff know who these children are, understand their academic progress, and maintain a culture of high aspirations for them.

5.9 The Designated Safeguarding Lead will evaluate any instances regarding any of the key indicators of harm or abuse outlined by the Acts and Legislation outlined in section 1.3.

5.10 The Deputy Designated Person will carry out the role as outlined above, if in the absence of the DSL and help to assist the DSL when needed.

5.11 If, at any point, there is a risk of immediate serious harm to a child a referral should be made to the local Child Protection National Agency and potentially the police. Anyone can report to the outside agency, however it is best practice to report to the DSL and then let the DSL, DDP or Principal report the incident.

5.12 The Designated Safeguarding Lead will undergo updated child protection training at least every 2 years, with regular refresher training to keep updated with the national and local initiatives.

6 Safeguarding Definitions and Guidance

Safeguarding, child protection and promoting the welfare of children is defined for the purposes of this policy as:

- Protecting children from harm.
- Preventing impairment of children's mental and physical health or development.
- Ensuring that children grow up in circumstances consistent with the provision of safe and effective care.
- Taking action to enable all children to have the best outcomes and feel safe.

6.1 Recognising abuse

To ensure that our students are protected from harm, we need to understand what types of behaviour constitute abuse and neglect. Abuse and neglect are forms of harm and abuse. Somebody may abuse or neglect a child by inflicting harm, for example by hitting them, or by failing to act to prevent harm, for example by leaving a small child home alone, or leaving knives or matches within reach of an unattended toddler.

There are four categories of abuse:

- Physical abuse, which can 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 is the persistent emotional maltreatment of a child, such as to cause severe and persistent adverse effects on the child's emotional development. It may involve conveying to children that they are worthless or unloved, inadequate or valued only for meeting the needs of another person. It may feature age or developmentally inappropriate expectations being imposed on children. These may include interactions that are beyond the 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, 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 penetrative and non-penetrative acts. They may include non-contact activities, such as involving children in looking at, or in the production of, pornographic material or watching sexual activities, or encouraging children to behave in sexually inappropriate ways, or grooming a child in preparation for abuse. Sexual abuse can take place online, and technology can be used to facilitate offline abuse. Sexual abuse is not solely perpetrated by adult males. Women can also commit acts of sexual abuse, as can other children. The sexual abuse of children by other children is a specific safeguarding issue in education (see paragraph on Child on Child Sexual Violence and Sexual Harassment Sexual violence in section 6.2).
- Neglect 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 misuse. Once a child is born, neglect may involve a parent or carer failing to provide adequate food and clothing or shelter, including exclusion from home or abandonment; failing to protect a child from physical and emotional harm or danger; failure to ensure adequate supervision, including the use of inadequate care-takers; or the failure to ensure access to appropriate medical care or treatment. It may also include neglect of, or unresponsiveness to, a child's basic emotional needs.

6.2 Peer-on-Peer Abuse

The school recognises that children are capable of abusing their peers, and that this abuse can include:

- Bullying (including cyberbullying).
- Physical abuse such as hitting, kicking, shaking, biting, hair pulling, or otherwise causing physical harm.
- Sexual violence, such as rape, assault by penetration and sexual assault; sexual harassment, such as sexual comments, remarks, jokes and online sexual harassment, which may be stand-alone or part of a broader pattern of abuse.
- Up skirting, which typically involves taking a picture under a person's clothing without them knowing, with the intention of viewing their genitals or buttocks to obtain sexual gratification, or cause the victim humiliation, distress or alarm.
- Sexting (also known as youth produced sexual imagery).
- Initiation/hazing type violence and rituals.

The values, ethos and behaviour policies provide the platform for staff and students to clearly recognise that abuse is abuse and it will never be tolerated or diminished in significance. It should be recognised that there is a gendered nature to peer-on-peer abuse i.e. that it is more likely that girls will be victims and boys perpetrators, however abuse from girls to boys can and does happen. Schools should recognise the impact of sexual violence

and the fact children/young people can, and sometimes do, abuse their peers in this way. As a school: We do not tolerate instances of peer-on-peer abuse and will not pass it off as “banter”, “just having a laugh” or “part of growing up”. We will follow both national and local guidance and policies to support any children/young people subject to peer-on-peer abuse, including sexting (also known as youth produced sexual imagery) and gang violence. We will follow the guidance on managing reports of child-on-child sexual violence and sexual harassment in schools. We will use a Risk to Children School Safety Plan when we have concerns. We will always report episodes of ‘up-skirting’.

Bullying between children is not a separate category of abuse and neglect, and it is a very serious issue that can cause considerable anxiety and distress. All incidences of bullying should be reported and will be managed through our anti-bullying procedures. If the bullying is particularly serious, or the anti-bullying procedures are deemed ineffective, the Principal and Designated Safeguarding Lead will consider implementing child protection procedures.

The management of children and young people with sexually harmful behaviour is complex and the school will work with other relevant agencies to maintain the safety of the whole school community. Young people who display such behaviour may be victims of abuse themselves and the child protection procedures will be followed for both victim and perpetrator.

Child on Child Sexual Violence and Sexual Harassment Sexual violence reports from children is important. 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. Staff must inform the Designated Safeguarding Lead (or Deputy), as soon as practically possible, if the Designated Safeguarding Lead (or Deputy) are both not available, then it is paramount that whoever the child has disclosed to, they stay with the child, **DO NOT** investigate or ask any questions, just listen, support and reassure the child until the DSL or DDP are available to proceed with the investigation. When taking down details of any harassment, the staff member devotes their full attention to the child and listens to what they are saying. When making notes, staff should be conscious of the need to remain engaged with the child and not appear distracted by the note taking. Either way, it is essential a written record is made. Remember never promise to keep secrets for the student, be honest about the next steps.

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

This involves exploitative situations, contexts and relationships where young people receive something as a result of engaging in sexual activities. Sexual exploitation can take many forms. What marks out exploitation is an imbalance of power in the relationship. The perpetrator always holds some kind of power over the victim which increases as the exploitative relationship develops. Sexual exploitation involves varying degrees of coercion, intimidation or enticement, including unwanted pressure from peers to have sex, sexual bullying including cyberbullying and grooming. However, it is also important to recognise that some young people who are being sexually exploited do not exhibit any external signs of this abuse and may not see themselves as a victim and may resent interference. However, this should not influence whether or not a referral is made. Some of the following signs may be indicators of Child Sexual Exploitation: children appear with unexplained gifts, who may have

an older boyfriend or girlfriend, who misuse drugs and alcohol, who go missing for periods of time or suffer changes in their emotional well-being.

Child Criminal Exploitation (CCE) is where an individual or a group takes advantage by power to coerce, manipulate or deceive a child or young person into committing a criminal act. Child Criminal Exploitation of children/young person can involve force/enticement-based methods of compliance, which can involve threats of violence or actual violence and may include: Travelling outside of the area they live in on public transport, committing crimes on behalf or requested by others because friends/family are being threatened with violence to settle debts or fabricated debts. Being forced to commit crimes so they can be part of a gang Being encouraged or manipulated to commit crimes by social media Receiving food, money, status in return for storing weapons or drugs Participating in 'cuckooing', a form of crime in which drug dealers take over the home of a vulnerable person in order to use it as a base for drug dealing. Some of the following signs may be indicators of Child Criminal Exploitation: Wearing new clothes, having money, mobile phones etc. without a reasonable excuse; Gang association or isolation from friends, different friends/social network; Exclusion or periods of absence from school; going missing from home/care without explanations; Receiving lots of texts or calls. The abuse 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. Victims can be exploited even when activity appears consensual and it should be noted exploitation as well as being physical can be facilitated and/or take place online.

6.4 Female Genital Mutilation (FGM)

All staff need to be alert to the possibility of a girl being at risk of FGM, or already having suffered FGM. There is a range of potential indicators that a child or young person may be at risk of FGM, which individually may not indicate risk but if there are two or more indicators present this could signal a risk to the child or young person. It should be noted that girls at risk of FGM may not yet be aware of the practice or that it may be conducted on them, so sensitivity should always be shown when approaching the subject.

There is a statutory duty upon teachers to report to the police where they discover that FGM appears to have been carried out on a girl under 18. In addition to FGM, the African practice of "ironing" a girl's chest with a hot stone to delay breast formation which is spreading. This is a practice whereby mothers, aunties or grandmothers use a hot stone to massage across the breast repeatedly in order to "break the tissue" and slow its growth. The perpetrators, usually mothers, consider it a traditional measure which protects girls from unwanted male attention, sexual harassment and rape. Medical experts and victims regard it as child abuse which could lead to physical and psychological scars, infections, inability to breastfeed, deformities and breast cancer.

6.5 Mental Health

Mental health problems can, in some cases, be an indicator that a child has suffered or is at risk of suffering abuse, neglect or exploitation and school has an important role to play in supporting the mental health and well-being of our pupils.

Whilst only appropriately trained professionals should attempt to make a diagnosis of a mental health problem, staff are well placed to observe children day-to-day and identify

those whose behaviour suggests that they may be experiencing a mental health problem or be at risk of developing one.

Where children have suffered abuse and neglect, or other potentially traumatic adverse childhood experiences, this can have a lasting impact throughout childhood, adolescence and into adulthood. It is key that staff are aware of how these children's experiences can impact on their mental health, behaviour and education.

If staff have a mental health concern about a child that is also a safeguarding concern, immediate action should be taken, following the Safeguarding policy and speaking to the Designated Safeguarding Lead or a Deputy.

6.6 Radicalisation

Radicalisation refers to the process by which a person comes to support terrorism and forms of extremism. It is possible to prevent vulnerable people from being radicalised during this process. However, there is no single way of identifying those individuals who are vulnerable. Radicalisation can occur in many different ways including specific background factors or specific influences such as family and friends. Social media and the internet is also a major factor in the radicalisation of young people.

A Risk Assessment requires a general understanding of the risks affecting children and young people in the community and how to identify individual children who may be at risk of radicalisation.

The school ICT network will ensure that appropriate filtering is in place to block terrorist or extremist material. As with other safeguarding risks, staff should be alert to changes in behaviour which could indicate that children may be in need of support or protection. Staff should use their professional judgement and act proportionately, which may include making a referral to the DSL and DDP, who will then contact (if necessary) the Child Protection National Agency.

6.7 Missing from Education

We recognise that full attendance at school is important to the well-being of all our pupils and enables them to access the opportunities made available to them at school. Attendance is monitored closely as patterns of absence are sometimes a cause for concern. If a child has not turned up to school, and no contact from the parent or guardian has been made, then contact must be made to confirm where the child is.

A child going missing from education is a potential indicator of abuse or neglect. The Designated Safeguarding Lead will monitor unauthorised absence, particularly where children go missing on repeated occasions.

Where a pupil has 3 consecutive school days of unexplained absence and all reasonable steps have been taken by the school to establish their whereabouts without success, the school should make an immediate referral to your local authority contacts.

Reasonable steps:

1. Telephone calls to all known contacts, followed up with an email every time a call is made without making contact.
2. Letters home (including recorded delivery).
3. Contact with other schools where siblings may be registered.
4. Possible home visits, where safe to do so.

5. Enquiries to friends, neighbours etc. through school contacts.
6. Enquiries with any other Service known to be involved with the pupil/family, and contact your local authority contact for advice
7. All contacts and outcomes to be recorded on the pupils file in held by the DSL

6.8 Illegal Drugs

When there is evidence or reasonable cause to believe that a young person is using illegal drugs appropriate action and support will be taken for the student. Any further enquiries and/or further action will be taken when the school receives reliable information about drug and alcohol abuse by a child's parents/carers (if relevant to the situation) and the school will seek advice with outside agencies.

6.9 Youth Produced Sexual Imagery (sexting)

The practice of children sharing images and videos via text message, email, social media or mobile messaging apps has become commonplace. However, this online technology has also given children the opportunity to produce and distribute sexual imagery in the form of photos and videos. Such imagery involving anyone under the age of 18 is illegal.

Youth produced sexual imagery refers to both images and videos where:

- A person under the age of 18 creates and shares sexual imagery of themselves with a peer under the age of 18.
- A person under the age of 18 shares sexual imagery created by another person under the age of 18 with a peer under the age of 18 or an adult.
- A person under the age of 18 is in possession of sexual imagery created by another person under the age of 18.

All incidents of this nature should be treated as a safeguarding concern.

There have been cases where sexual imagery of people under 18 has been shared by adults and where sexual imagery of a person of any age has been shared by an adult to a child is child sexual abuse and should be responded to accordingly. If a member of staff becomes aware of an incident involving youth produced sexual imagery they should follow the child protection procedures and refer to the DSL as soon as possible. The member of staff should confiscate the device involved and set it to flight mode or, if this is not possible, turn it off. Staff should not view, copy or print the youth produced sexual imagery. The DSL should hold an initial review meeting with appropriate school staff and subsequent interviews with the children involved (if appropriate). Parents should be informed at an early stage and involved in the process unless there is reason to believe that involving parents would put the child at risk of harm. At any point in the process if there is concern a young person has been harmed or is at risk of harm a referral should be made to the Child Protection National Agency and/or the Police as appropriate.

Immediate referral at the initial review stage should be made to Child Protection National Agency/Police if:

- The incident involves an adult.
- There is good reason to believe that a young person has been coerced, blackmailed or groomed or if there are concerns about their capacity to consent (for example, owing to special education needs).
- What you know about the imagery suggests the content depicts sexual acts which are unusual for the child's development stage or are violent.

- The imagery involves sexual acts.
- The imagery involves anyone aged 12 or under.
- There is reason to believe a child is at immediate risk of harm owing to the sharing of the imagery, for example the child is presenting as suicidal or self-harming.

If none of the above apply then the DSL will use their professional judgement to assess the risk to pupils involved and may decide, with input from the Principal, to respond to the incident without escalation to Children's Social Care or the police.

In applying judgement, the DSL will consider if:

- There is a significant age difference between the sender/receiver
- There is any coercion or encouragement beyond the sender/receiver
- The imagery was shared and received with the knowledge of the child in the imagery
- The child is more vulnerable than usual i.e., at risk
- There is a significant impact on the children involved
- The image is of a severe or extreme nature
- The child involved understands consent
- The situation is isolated or if the image been more widely distributed
- There other circumstances relating to either the sender or recipient that may add cause for concern i.e. difficult home circumstances
- The children have been involved in incidents relating to youth produced imagery before.

If any of these circumstances are present the situation will be escalated according to our child protection procedures, including reporting to the police or Child Protection National Agency. Otherwise, the situation will be managed within the school.

The DSL will record all incidents of youth produced sexual imagery, including both the actions taken, actions not taken, reasons for doing so and the resolution in line with safeguarding recording procedures. Youth refers to anyone under the age of 18.

6.10 Online Safety

Students are increasingly using electronic equipment on a daily basis to access the internet and share content and images via social media sites such as Facebook, twitter, Instagram and snapchat. Unfortunately, some adults and other children use these technologies to harm children. The harm might range from sending hurtful or abusive texts or emails, to grooming and enticing children to engage in sexual behaviour such as webcam photography or face to face meetings. Pupils may also be distressed or harmed by accessing inappropriate material such as pornographic websites or those which promote extremist behaviour, criminal activity, suicide or eating disorders. The School has an online safety policy which explains how we try to keep pupils safe online in school and at home and how we respond to online safety incidents. Pupils are taught about online safety throughout the curriculum and all staff receive online safety training which is regularly updated. The school online safety coordinator is listed at the beginning of this document.

6.11 Forced Marriage

A forced marriage is a marriage in which one or both people do not (or in cases of people with learning disabilities cannot) consent to the marriage but are coerced into it. Coercion may include physical, psychological, financial, sexual and emotional pressure. It may also involve physical or sexual violence and abuse. Forced marriage is an appalling and indefensible practice and is recognised in the UK and EU as a form of violence against women and men, domestic/child abuse and a serious abuse of human rights. Since June

2014 forcing someone to marry has become a criminal offence in England and Wales under the Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014. A forced marriage is not the same as an arranged marriage which is common in several cultures. The families of both spouses take a leading role in arranging the marriage but the choice of whether or not to accept the arrangement remains with the prospective spouses. School staff should never attempt to intervene directly as a school or through a third party.

6.12 Honour Based Abuse Honour based abuse (HBA)

This can be described as a collection of practices, which are used to control behaviour within families or other social groups to protect perceived cultural and religious beliefs and/or honour. Such abuse, including violence, can occur when perpetrators perceive that a relative has shamed the family and/or community by breaking their honour code.

Honour based abuse might be committed against people who; become involved with a boyfriend or girlfriend from a different culture or religion

- Want to get out of an arranged marriage
- Want to get out of a forced marriage
- Wear clothes or take part in activities that might not be considered traditional within a particular culture.

It is a violation of human rights and may be a form of domestic and/or sexual abuse. There is no, and cannot be, honour or justification for abusing the human rights of others.

6.13 Private Fostering Arrangements

A private fostering arrangement occurs when someone other than a parent or close relative cares for a child for a period of 28 days or more, with the agreement of the child's parents. It applies to children under the age of 16 or 18 if the child is disabled. Children looked after by the local authority or who are placed in residential schools, children's homes or hospitals are not considered to be privately fostered. Private fostering occurs in all cultures, including British culture and children may be privately fostered at any age. The school recognises that most privately fostered children remain safe and well but are aware that safeguarding concerns have been raised in some cases. Therefore, all staff are alert to possible safeguarding issues, including the possibility that the child has been trafficked into the country. By law, a parent, private foster carer or other persons involved in making a private fostering arrangement must notify children's services as soon as possible. However, when a member of staff becomes aware that a pupil may be in a private fostering arrangement, they will raise this with the DSL and the DSL will notify their local authority of the circumstances.

6.14 Children with family members in prison

Children with a parent or family member in prison are at risk of poverty, stigma and bullying, isolation and poor mental health. Performance at school may drop and they may have to take on extra responsibilities at home, including becoming young carers in some situations. The school is aware of which children have a parent or family member in prison, maintaining confidentiality where necessary.

6.15 Gangs, Organised Crime

A gang is typically a noticeable group of individuals that spends time in public and engages in criminal activity and violence. This includes recruiting young people to transport and sell Class A drugs from urban areas to coastal towns. Young people are also used to transport and hide weapons. The group may also be territorial or in conflict with other gangs. Young

people involved in gangs have an increased risk of experiencing violence and other types of abuse. Gang crime and serious youth violence is also often synonymous with knife crime and child criminal exploitation. Teachers have the power to search pupils without consent for 'prohibited items' such as knives and weapons, alcohol, illegal drugs, tobacco, and any item that staff reasonably suspect has been, or is likely to be, used to commit an offence, cause personal injury or damage to property. Anyone worried about a student involved in, or at risk from, gangs need to contact the local authority.

6.16 Up Skirting Up Skirting

This is now a criminal offence. This typically involves taking a picture under a person's clothing without them knowing, with the intention of viewing their genitals or buttocks to obtain sexual gratification, or cause the victim humiliation, distress or alarm.

6.17 Serious Violence

Signs of serious violence may include increased absence from school, a change in friendships or relationships with older individuals or groups, a significant decline in performance, signs of self-harm or a significant change in wellbeing, or signs of assault or unexplained injuries. Unexplained gifts or new possessions could also indicate that children have been approached by, or are involved with, individuals associated with criminal networks or gangs.

6.18 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. Making child arrangements via the family courts following separation can be stressful and entrench conflict in families. This can be stressful for children.

6.19 Opportunities to teach safeguarding

Leonardo da Vinci Academy will ensure that children are taught about safeguarding, including online safety, which every student and parent will sign a network agreement form please see in Appendix 1 at the end of this policy. This will be considered as part of providing a broad and balanced curriculum. This will include covering relevant issues for school through Relationships Education (for all primary pupils) and Relationships and Sex Education (for all secondary pupils) and Health Education (for all pupils in the school). These are covered in the students' PSHE session they have with their tutor. We also have wellbeing posters to encourage conversation around mental health, wellbeing and staying safe.

7 Safeguarding and Child Protection Procedures

7.1 Indicators of abuse and what you might see

Physical signs define some types of abuse, for example, bruising, bleeding or broken bones. The identification of physical signs is complicated, as children may go to great lengths to hide injuries, often because they are ashamed or embarrassed, or their abuser has threatened further violence or trauma. It is also quite difficult for anyone without medical training to categorise injuries into accidental or deliberate with any degree of certainty. For these reasons it is vital that staff are also aware of the range of behavioural indicators of abuse and report any concerns to the Designated Safeguarding Lead.

Remember, it is your responsibility to report your concerns. It is not your responsibility to investigate or decide whether a child has been abused.

A child who is being abused and/or neglected may; have bruises, bleeding, burns, fractures or other injuries show signs of pain or discomfort keep arms and legs covered, even in warm weather be concerned about changing for PE or swimming look unkempt and uncared for change their eating habits have difficulty in making or sustaining friendships appear fearful be reckless with regard to their own or other's safety self-harm frequently miss school or arrive late show signs of not wanting to go home display a change in behaviour – from quiet to aggressive, or happy-go-lucky to withdrawn challenge authority become disinterested in their school work be constantly tired or preoccupied be wary of physical contact be involved in, or particularly knowledgeable about drugs or alcohol display sexual knowledge or behaviour beyond that normally expected for their age.

Children with special educational needs (SEN) and disabilities can face additional safeguarding challenges.

Additional barriers can exist when recognising abuse and neglect in this group of children.

These can include:

- Assumptions that indicators of possible abuse such as behaviour, mood and injury relate to the child's disability without further exploration
- Being more prone to peer group isolation than other children
- The potential for children with SEN and disabilities being disproportionately impacted by behaviours such as bullying, without outwardly showing any signs
- Communication barriers and difficulties in overcoming these barriers.

Individual indicators rarely provide conclusive evidence of abuse, especially if it is or seems like an isolated incident. They should be viewed as part of a jigsaw, and each small piece of information will help the Designated Safeguarding Lead to decide how to proceed. It is very important that you report your concerns.

Safeguarding incidents and/or behaviours can be associated with factors outside the school and/or can occur between children outside of this environment. All staff, but especially the Designated Safeguarding Lead (and Deputy) will consider whether children are at risk of abuse or exploitation in situations outside their families. Outside the immediate family harms take a variety of different forms and children can be vulnerable to multiple harms including (but not limited to) sexual exploitation, criminal exploitation, and serious youth violence.

7.2 Taking action

Key points to remember for taking action are:

- In an emergency take the action necessary to help the child, for example, get a hold and report your concern to the Designated Safeguarding Lead as quickly as possible and if they are not available ensure the information is sent to safeguarding@lvacademy.cz during the school that day. If the child is in serious risk even in school, then you must stay with the child until the DSL or DDP can arrive and take over.
- If it is a medical emergency, then call 112 and also get a hold of your DSL or DDP.
- The DSL or DDP then will ensure action is taken to report the concern. **DO NOT** start your own investigation, share information to the DSL or DDP only
- Do not discuss the issue with colleagues, friends or family, complete a record of concern and seek support for yourself if you are distressed.

7.3 If you suspect a child is at risk of harm

There will be occasions when you suspect that a child may be at serious risk, but you have no concrete evidence. The child's behaviour may have changed, their artwork could be bizarre or you may have noticed other physical but inconclusive signs. In these circumstances, you should try to give the child the opportunity to talk. The signs you have noticed may be due to a variety of factors and it is fine to ask the child if they are alright or if you can help in any way. Use open questions for example "You don't seem yourself today is everything alright", "I have not caught up with you in a while, how have you been" "How is your day going so far".

Ensure these concerns are reported to the Designated Safeguarding Lead. If the child does begin to reveal that they are being harmed, you should follow the advice in the section (7.2) 'If a child discloses to you'. If, following your conversation, you remain concerned, you should address your concerns with the Designated Safeguarding Lead on safeguarding@lvacademy.cz

The UK Department for Education has produced advice titled "What to do if you are worried a child is being abused Advice for practitioners' March 2015" to help practitioners identify child abuse and neglect and take appropriate action in response, this is in the safeguarding file which there is a copy in every Teaching Room.

7.4 If a child discloses information to you

It takes a lot of courage for a child to disclose that they are being neglected or abused. They may feel ashamed, particularly if the abuse is sexual, their abuser may have threatened what will happen if they tell, they may have lost all trust in adults, or they may believe, or have been told, that the abuse is their own fault.

If a child talks to you about any risks to their safety or wellbeing you will need to let them know that you must pass the information on, you are not allowed to keep secrets. The point at which you do this is a matter for professional judgement.

During your conversation with the child allow them to speak freely. Remain calm and do not over react as the child may stop talking if they feel they are upsetting you. Give reassuring nods or words of comfort and do not be afraid of silences, remembering how hard this must be for the child. Do not automatically offer any physical touch as comfort. It may be anything but comforting to a child who has been abused.

Under no circumstances ask leading or investigative questions - such as how many times this has happened, whether it happens to siblings too, or what the child's mother thinks about all this.

Tell the child what will happen next. The child may agree to go with you to see the Designated Safeguarding Lead. Otherwise let them know that someone will come to see them before the end of the day. Never promise to keep a secret for the child.

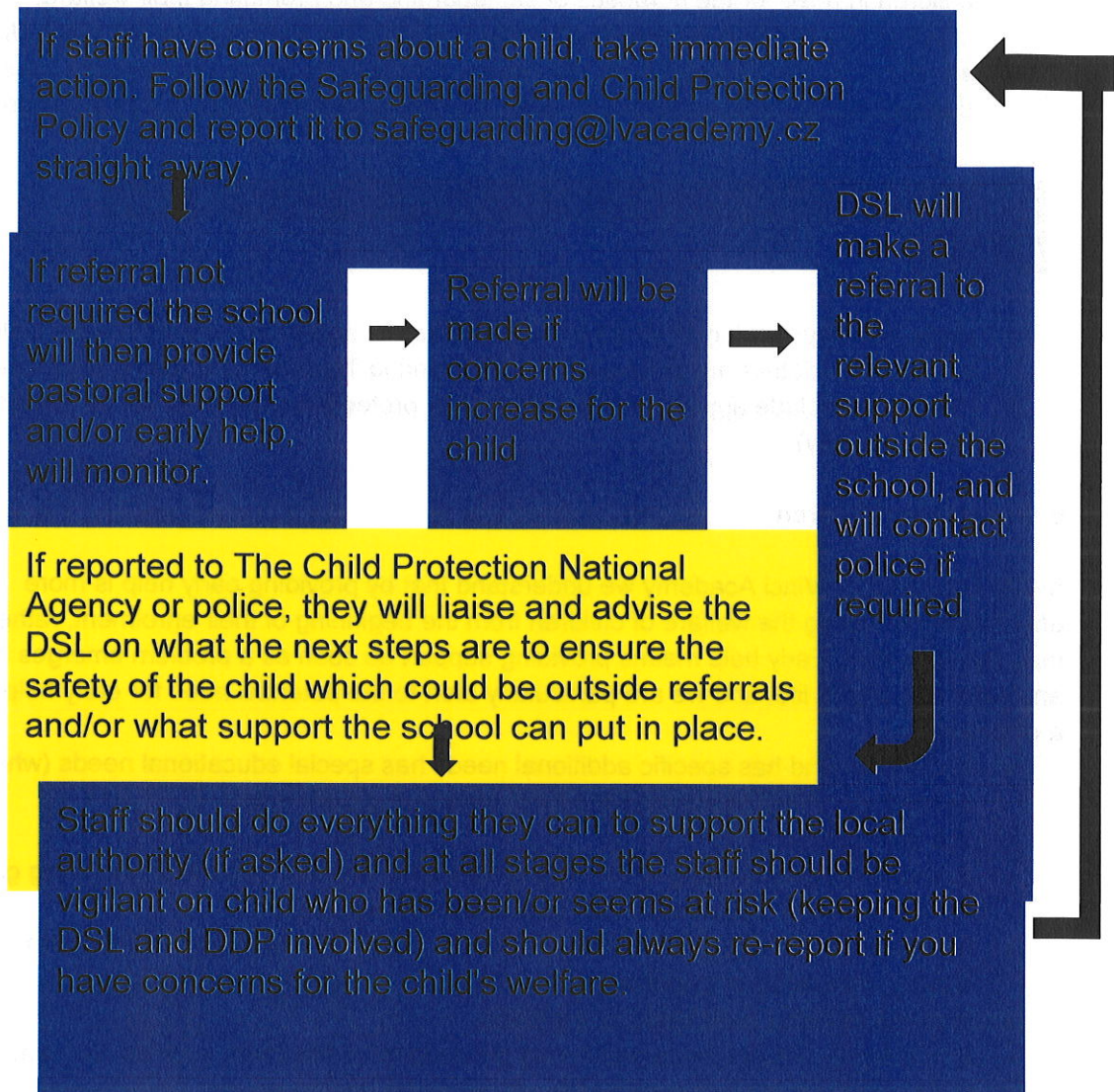
Report to the Designated Safeguarding Lead and Deputy Designated Person and write up your conversation as soon as possible on the record of concern form (in Appendix 2 at the end of this policy) if the child has disclosed what has happened to them and attach it to the report. Ensure you seek support if you feel distressed from the disclosure.

7.5 Notifying parents

The school will normally seek to discuss any concerns about a child with their parents. This must be handled sensitively and the Designated Safeguarding Lead will make contact with the parent in the event of a concern, suspicion or disclosure. However, if the school believes that notifying parents could increase the risk to the child or exacerbate the problem, advice will first be sought from outside agencies

7.6 The Referral Process To Outside Agencies

This diagram illustrates what action should be taken and who should take it where there are concerns about a child. If, at any point, there is a risk of immediate serious harm to a child a referral should be made to The Child Protection Agency immediately.



1. In cases which also involve a concern or an allegation of abuse against a staff member, see section 4.10 for guidance.
2. Early help means providing support as soon as a problem emerges at any point in a child's life. Where a child would benefit from coordinated early help, an early help inter-agency assessment should be arranged.
3. Referrals should follow the process set out in this policy.
4. Under the Children Act 1989, local authorities are required to provide services for children in need for the purposes of safeguarding and promoting their welfare. Children in need may be assessed under section 17 of the Children Act 1989. Under section 47 of the Children Act 1989, where a local authority has reasonable cause to suspect that a child is suffering or likely to suffer significant harm, it has a duty to

BLUE - School Actions

YELLOW - Outside

Actions

- make enquiries to decide whether to take action to safeguard or promote the child's welfare. Full details are in Chapter one of Working Together to Safeguard Children.
5. This could include applying for an emergency protection order (this will be guided by local authority)

8 Supporting Children

8.1 At Leonardo da Vinci Academy we understand that by providing early help is more effective in promoting the welfare of children from the beginning of their enrolment, rather than reacting later. Early help means providing support as soon as a problem emerges at any point in a child's life, and we are 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 antisocial or criminal behaviour, including gang involvement and association with organised crime groups.
- Is frequently missing/goes 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 and domestic abuse.
- Is misusing drugs or alcohol themselves.

8.2 When a child requires support in more than one area (e.g. education, health, housing, police), the school will complete an Early Help Assessment (EHA) and identify what help the child/ family require, to prevent their needs escalating to a point where intervention via a statutory assessment under the Children Act 1989 is needed.

8.3 We recognise that a child who is abused, who witnesses violence or who lives in a violent environment may feel helpless and humiliated, may blame themselves, and find it difficult to develop and maintain a sense of self-worth. We recognise that the school may provide the only stability in the lives of children who have been abused or who are at risk of harm.

8.4 Our school will support all children by:

- Encouraging the development of self-esteem and resilience in every aspect of school life, including through the curriculum
- Promoting a caring, safe and positive environment within the school
- Ensure that all children know there is an adult in the school who they can approach if they are worried or in difficulty
- Include regular consultation with children e.g., through safety questionnaires, participation in anti-bullying week, asking children to report whether they have had happy/sad lunchtimes/playtimes, get the children involved in their own wellbeing posters in their classes.
- Liaising and working together with all other support services and those agencies involved in the safeguarding of children
- Notifying local authority as soon as there is a significant concern
- Ensuring that a named teacher is designated for Looked After Children (LAC) and that an up-to-date list of children is regularly reviewed and updated
- Providing continuing support to a child (about whom there have been concerns) who if they leave the school and go to another, we ensure that such concerns and school medical records are forwarded under confidential cover to the Principal at the pupil's new school as a matter of urgency.
- Listening to a child's wishes and feelings.

8.5 Children in Early Years are encouraged to understand how to keep themselves safe and this will be developed throughout their time in Early Years. Not applicable to Secondary Schools ages.

8.6 Children potentially at greater risk of harm Children who need outside support (social worker) (Child in Need and Child Protection Plans) may need this support due to safeguarding or welfare needs. Children may need this help due to abuse, neglect and complex family circumstances. A child's experiences of adversity and trauma can leave them vulnerable to further harm, as well as educationally disadvantaged in facing barriers to attendance, learning, behaviour and mental health. Local authorities should share the fact a child has a social worker, and the Designated Safeguarding Lead should hold and use this information so that decisions can be made in the best interests of the child's safety, welfare and educational outcomes. This should be considered as a matter of routine and all files like this should be kept locked away in the DSL office, and only the DSL and DDP should have access to these if needed to be accessed. There is a hierarchy and levels in which to share this information under existing duties on both local authorities and schools and colleges to safeguard and promote the welfare of children. Where children need support or either outside/inside the school, this should inform decisions about safeguarding (for example, responding to unauthorised absence or missing education where there are known safeguarding risks) and about promoting welfare (for example, considering the provision of pastoral and/or academic support, alongside action by statutory services).

9 Supporting Staff

We understand that staff who have had a disclosure to them from a student who has suffered any form of abuse, harm, neglect or suffering from mental health, or a staff member suspects any indications of abuse, harm, neglect or mental health, that they may and can find the situation stressful and upsetting. We will support each and every staff member by making sure that the DSL or DDP checks in on them as soon as possible in the case of a serious disclosure (after it has been managed and the child is safe). On top of this all-staff members can come and speak to the safeguarding team, their line manager and staff wellbeing representatives about the effect this has had on them. We highly encourage (while not speaking about the nature of the disclosure or the child involved unless it is to the DSL or DDP) for the staff members to talk about their experience and how it may have affected them, to help build a supportive network within the school. Staff members must not share any information of the disclosure or student with any staff who are not in the safeguarding team to assure confidentiality and safety for the student.

10 If you have concerns about a colleague (including admin, supply staff and volunteers)

Staff who are concerned about the conduct of a colleague (including all of the administration team, supply staff and volunteers) towards a child are without doubt placed in a very difficult situation. They may worry that they have misunderstood the situation and they will wonder whether a report could jeopardise their colleague's career or it is not their place to report it. All staff must remember that the welfare of the child is paramount. All concerns of poor practice or concerns linked to the child's welfare brought about by the behaviour of colleagues should be reported to safeguarding@lvacademy.cz. Complaints about the Principal should be reported to the Proprietor. It is vital that we follow this, as this will help to promote and create a school that is and feels safe.

11 If you have concerns about the safeguarding practices within the school or have a complaint

11.1 Staff should feel able to raise concerns about poor or unsafe practice and potential failures in the school's safeguarding procedure. Appropriate whistleblowing procedures are in place to raise such a concern with the school's management team. Please refer to the Whistleblowing Policy for full details, or refer to section 4.10 in this policy to follow correct protocol.

11.2 Our complaints procedure needs to be followed in the instance where a child or parent raises a concern about the way the procedure of safeguarding has been applied to them/her child. Complaints from staff are dealt with under the school's grievance procedures.

12 Allegations against staff (including admin, supply staff and volunteers)

12.1 All staff (including admin, supply staff and volunteers) should take care not to place themselves in a vulnerable position with a child. It is always advisable for interviews or work

with individual children or parents to be conducted in view of more than one adult as a minimum.

12.2 We understand that a pupil or parent may make an allegation against a member of staff. If such an allegation is made, the member of staff receiving the allegation or the staff member who has heard the allegation, will immediately inform the Principal or the most senior teacher if the Principal is not available.

12.3 If the allegation concerns the Principal it should be reported to the Proprietor. In these instances, any reference to the Principal in this section should be read as referring to the Proprietor.

12.4 If the allegation meets any of the following criteria it should be reported by the Principal to the relevant outside agencies (see section 4.10) as soon as possible on that day.

- Staff have behaved in a way that has harmed a child, or may have harmed a child.
- Staff have 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.
- Staff have behaved towards a child or children in a way that indicates he/she is unsuitable to work with children.

12.5 Any member of staff who believes with reasonable cause that allegations about staff are not being referred to the Principal and/or Governors, or handled appropriately may refer the matter directly to the local authorities.

12.6 For allegations against Early Years staff, Early Years volunteers or anyone who resides at the premises, the same protocol is to happen as outlined in section 4.10.

12.7 Under no circumstances will we send a child home, pending such an investigation, unless this advice is given exceptionally, as a result of a consultation with the Child Protection National Agency.

12.8 Suspension of the member of staff, excluding the Principal, against whom an allegation has been made, needs careful consideration, and the Principal will consult in making this decision, alongside with the governors. In the event of an allegation against the Principal, the decision to suspend will be made by the Proprietor with advice from the HR Advisor.

12.9 If an allegation is made directly to the police, they will coordinate with the Principal. They will discuss with the Principal and, where necessary, obtain further details of the allegation. The Principal should not investigate the allegation at this stage unless instructed to do so by the police. The discussion should also consider whether there is evidence/information that establishes that the allegation is false or unfounded.

12.10 If the allegation is not definitively false and there is cause to suspect that a child is suffering or is likely to suffer significant harm, this will need to be reported to the Principal, who will converse with the Governors on next steps.

12.11 If there is no suspicion or evidence that significant harm is an issue, but a criminal offence might have been committed, the Principal will again converse with the Governors and contact the police and convene a similar discussion to decide whether a police investigation is needed. That discussion will also involve the Child Protection National Agency.

12.12 After this initial consideration, if it is decided that the allegation does not involve any criminal offence, it will be for the school to deal with. In such cases, the Principal will decide if a Disciplinary process is required and if so, will handle the matter in line with the current disciplinary policy. In a case in which Child Protection National Agency has been informed or taking any action, the Principal should take account of any relevant information obtained in the course of those enquiries when considering disciplinary action.

12.13 The Child Protection National Agency, will continue to liaise with the school to monitor progress of the case and provide advice and support.

12.14 If a criminal investigation is required, the police will aim to complete their enquiries as quickly as possible consistent with a fair and thorough investigation and will keep the progress of the case under review.

12.15 If the police decide not to charge the individual with an offence, or decide to administer a caution, or a Court acquits the person, the police aim to pass all information they have which may be relevant to a disciplinary case to the school as quickly as possible after the decision. The school will then consider the matter in line with the current disciplinary policy.

12.16 If the person is convicted of an offence the police will inform the employer straight away so that appropriate disciplinary action can be taken.

12.18 Staff, parents and governors are reminded that publication of material that may lead to the identification of a teacher who is the subject of an allegation is prohibited by law. Publication includes verbal conversations or writing including content placed on social media sites.

12.19 Supply teachers.

In some circumstances the school will have to consider an allegation against an individual not directly employed by them, where its disciplinary procedures do not fully apply, for example, supply teachers provided by an employment agency. Whilst the school is not the employer of supply teachers, they should ensure allegations are dealt with properly. The school should not decide to cease to use a supply teacher due to safeguarding concerns, without finding out the facts to determine a suitable outcome. The Principal should discuss with the agency whether it is appropriate to suspend the supply teacher, or redeploy them to another part of the school, whilst they carry out their investigation. Agencies should be fully involved and co-operate in any enquiries from the school and police. The school will usually take the lead because agencies do not have direct access to children or other school staff, so they will not be able to collect the facts when an allegation is made. Supply teachers, whilst not employed by the school, are under the supervision, direction and control of Leonardo da Vinci Academy when working for this company. They should be advised to contact their representative if they have one, or a colleague for support. The allegations

management meeting which is often arranged by the Principal and governors should address issues such as information sharing, to ensure that any previous concerns or allegations known to the agency are taken into account by the school during the investigation.

13 Allegations Against Pupils

13.1 In most instances, the conduct of pupils towards each other will be covered by the Behaviour Policy. However, some serious allegations may raise safeguarding concerns including physical abuse, emotional abuse, sexual abuse and sexual exploitation. It is important to note that this can and does happen, any concerns you may have seen or been told report it to safeguarding@lvacademy.cz

It is likely to be considered a safeguarding allegation if 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 this student.
- Indicates that young people outside the school may be affected by this student.

13.2 Examples of safeguarding issues against a student could include:

- Violence, particularly pre-planned.
- Forcing others to use drugs or alcohol.
- Blackmail or extortion.
- Threats and intimidation.
- Indecent exposure, indecent touching or serious sexual assaults.
- Forcing others to watch pornography or take part in sexting.
- Encouraging others to attend inappropriate parties.
- Photographing or videoing other children performing indecent acts.

13.3 When an allegation is made by a pupil, staff will need to consider if the complaint raises a safeguarding concern. If there is a safeguarding concern the Principal and Designated Safeguarding Lead should be informed immediately.

13.4 A factual record should be made of the allegation if disclosed to a staff member, but no attempt at this stage should be made to investigate the circumstances, everything should be handed over to the DSL or DDP.

13.5 The Designated Safeguarding Lead will contact the Local Authority to discuss the case and will follow through the outcomes of the discussion. The Designated Safeguarding Lead will make a record of the concern, the discussion and any outcome and keep a copy in the files of both pupils' files.

13.6 If the allegation indicates a potential criminal offence has taken place, the police should be contacted at the earliest opportunity and both sets of parents informed.

13.7 In some circumstances it may be appropriate to exclude the pupil being complained about for a period of time according to the Behaviour Policy.

13.8 Where neither local authority decides to investigate the complaint, a thorough school investigation should take place, with a risk assessment prepared and a supervision plan implemented for both victim and perpetrator, if required.

14 Confidentiality

14.1 All matters relating to child protection are confidential. The Principal or Designated Safeguarding Lead will disclose any information about a child to other members of staff on a need-to-know basis only.

14.2 All staff must be aware that they have a professional responsibility to share information with other local authorities (see section 1) in order to safeguard children, however this will nearly in all circumstances be done through the DSL or DDP only.

14.3 All staff must be aware that they cannot promise a child to keep secrets that might compromise the child's safety or wellbeing, or that of another. It is vital that when a student is disclosing a potential safeguarding concern, you still must not pretend to keep it a secret to the child, even if you think this means they will disclose more details. It will betray the students trust not only in you but in the school itself and can be extremely damaging most importantly to the student but also to the investigation in order to help them.

14.4 Leonardo da Vinci Academy will always undertake to share our intention to refer a child (if needed) to the Child Protection National Agency with their parents, unless telling the parents could put the child at greater risk of harm, or impede a criminal investigation.

14.5 All confidentiality will take into account the requirements to notify agencies of safeguarding concerns under the Children's Act 1989 and Working to Safeguard Children

14.6 GDPR DOES NOT prevent the sharing of information for the purposes of keeping children safe. Fears about sharing information can't and should not stand in the way of the need to safeguard, promote the welfare and protect the safety of children.

15 Physical Intervention

15.1 As a school we recognise that in extreme cases, staff may have to use physical intervention as an absolute last resort, when a child is endangering him/herself or others, and that at all times it must be the minimal force necessary to prevent injury to themselves or another person. Such events have to be recorded and signed by a witness. In the unlikely event that you are the only staff member as a witness, it is important for you to stay in sight of the incident and get another student to get another adult. If possible, do not intervene unless absolutely necessary (described above) until you have another staff member as a witness.

15.2 We understand that physical intervention of a nature that causes injury or distress to a child could be considered to be investigated under the child protection or disciplinary procedures.

15.3 We recognise that touch is appropriate in the context of working with children, and all staff have been given 'Safe Practice' guidance to ensure they are clear about their professional boundaries.

15.4 It is up to the Designated Safeguarding Lead to ensure that every staff member in the school, that may be called upon to use physical intervention, has been appropriately supported to deal with any potential scenarios that may arise.

16 Staff Training

16.1 It is important that all staff have training to enable them to recognise the possible signs of abuse and neglect and to know what to do if they have a concern. New staff and governors will receive training during their induction. All staff will receive training that is updated annually with refreshers throughout the year. It is paramount that all staff that are hired by The Leonardo da Vinci Academy (teachers, support staff and admin) who come into contact with students for any amount of time no matter how little, have to complete the mandatory training set out by the Designated Safeguarding Lead.

16.2 For all members of staff they are:

- Provided with child protection awareness information at induction so that they know who to discuss a concern with.
- Undertake Safeguarding training through the Educare platform
- Receive regular yearly refreshers in the mandatory safeguarding training. Plus, will receive regular updates in e-safety and reporting concerns.
- Have child protection awareness training every year, to maintain their understanding of the signs and indicators of abuse.
- Know how to respond to a pupil who discloses abuse and the procedure to be followed in appropriately sharing a concern of possible abuse or disclosure of abuse.
- Encouraged to have read at least Section One of Keeping Children Safe in Education (which there is a copy of in every teachers/staff room).
- Have been notified of the details of the key personal (on pg.3).

17 Safer Recruitment

17.1 Leonardo da Vinci Academy will always strive to ensure that we do our utmost to employ 'safe' staff by following the guidance of The Czech Republic and International employment law, alongside the Keeping Children Safe in Education 2021 statutory guidance.

17.2 Designated Safeguarding Lead who is involved in recruitment, along with at least one governor, will be trained in complete Safer Recruitment Training.

17.3 Anyone who is employed through a third party from the Leonardo da Vinci Academy, for example cleaners. It is the school's responsibility to ensure that the company has done the correct security checks for their employees and that they have passed in order to work in the

school. However, we as a school are not responsible to provide training or the security checks of each individual that is hired through the third party company.

17.4 Further information on safer recruitment can be found in our safer recruitment policy.

18 Use of Mobile Phones and Cameras

18.1 Where appropriate the school may provide a camera for staff to use to record images and videos. At no time should a staff camera or mobile phone be used to record children. Staff mobile phones should not be taken onto the playground, unless being used for Health & Safety reasons, for example to call the nurse. Phones should be locked away when in a classroom.

18.2 All recorded images should only be downloaded onto a school-based system, and should be deleted once printed.

18.3 Parental consent must be sought for the use of photographs or videos in school and outside of school, such as on school trips and for promotional reasons. If images are used with consent, only first names or anonymised titles will be used.

18.4 The school's policy on expectations of pupils regarding mobile phones and cameras.

18.5 Parents may bring mobile phones into school but may only take photographs of their own children, during events such as plays, concerts or sporting events for personal use. Parents should be reminded that the publications of such images might be unlawful.

18.6 We are aware that children and young people use social media. We are actively committed to ensuring that young people use it correctly and appropriately and we are vigilant to new trends and update our practices accordingly.

19 Extended school and off-site arrangements

19.1 Where extended school activities are provided this policy will still apply.

19.2 When our children attend off-site activities, we will check that effective child protection arrangements are in place by:

- Making sure we have the correct ratio of Staff to Students.
- Carrying out risk assessments of all off-site activities.
- Having consent forms from parents in order for the child to attend.
- (Like mentioned in 19.1) All staff still follow the procedures of the school's safeguarding policy.
- All staff have completed, and have up to date first aid training.

20 Site Security

20.1 Visitors to the school, including contractors, are expected to sign in which confirms they have permission to be on site. Parents who are simply delivering or collecting their children do not need to sign in. All visitors are expected to observe the school's safeguarding and health and safety regulations to ensure children in school are kept safe. The Principal and Designated Safeguarding Lead will exercise professional judgement in determining whether any visitor should be escorted or supervised while on site.

20.2 In the Leonardo da Vinci Academy we have 24hour CCTV onsite. This is for the protection of the students and staff. This is managed by SPACES and may only be accessed through an application to the local authorities.

21 Record Keeping

21.1 The Designated Safeguarding Lead will maintain child protection records and ensure they:

- Have details of two emergency contacts on every child's file.
- Keep clear detailed written records of concerns about children even when there is no need to refer to the matter.
- Keep records in a strict chronological order.
- Keep all records in secure and in locked locations that only the safeguarding team know of or have access to.
- Send all relevant records to the receiving school, college or education establishment when a pupil moves and to have a recorded receipt confirmation once it is received from the new school/college.

21.2 Child protection records or any records that need to be kept secure, need to be maintained independently from the pupil's school files and the school file. This will be labelled discreetly (for the knowledge of the DSL) in the students file to indicate that separate information is held. Such records will only be accessible to the Designated Safeguarding Lead and any school leader that needs to be aware.

21.3 Such records will include, in addition to the name, address and age of the child, timed and dated observations describing the child's behaviour, appearance, statements/remarks made to staff or other children and observations of interactions between the child, other children, members of staff and/ or parents/ carers that give rise to concern. Where possible and without interpretation, the exact words spoken by the child or parent/carer will be recorded. Records will be signed, dated and timed by the member of staff making the record.

21.4 Child protection records are normally exempt from the disclosure provisions of GDPR, which means that children and parents do not have an automatic right to see them. If a request is received, please refer to the Principal, who will advise them to submit a Freedom of Information request for consideration. However, this does not prevent school staff from sharing information with relevant agencies, where that information may help to protect a child.

22 Monitoring and Review


22.1 This policy is reviewed by the Leonardo da Vinci Academy safeguarding team each year. Safeguarding incidents are monitored and reviewed by the team to inform any required changes to the policy.

22.2 Every year the team will also ensure any updates or changes in the 'Keeping children safe in education' and 'What to do if you're worried a child is being abused' are changed in the folders placed in each teacher's/staff room.

22.3 As the Leonardo da Vinci Academy grows the team will look yearly at any new positions in the safeguarding team that may need to be added in order to keep a safe and secure environment.

22.4 Our staff training set out by the Designated Safeguarding Lead, will be renewed/refreshed every year before the start of the new September term. Staff members whose start date, which is not at the beginning of the academic year, will be advised when their annual refresher training is due by the DSL.

Approved
D. Hester
Founder 30/1/2022

written by
Justin Kilkullen-Nichols
Founding principal

Jan 2022.