



Designated Safeguarding Lead for Child Protection (DSL)

Vision and Purpose

1. To lead in facilitating the development of safeguarding and child protection policies, training and procedures and guidance for schools within the Forest Edge Learning Federation ensuring that the Child Protection Policy is reviewed annually by the Governing Body.

2. To undertake appropriate Child Protection Training in order to:

Understand the assessment process for providing Early Help and intervention, e.g. through locally agreed common and shared assessment processes such as early help assessments.

Have a working knowledge of how Hampshire conducts Child Protection Case Conferences and be able to attend these effectively when required to do so.

Ensure each member of staff has access to and understands the school's Child Protection Policy and Procedures, especially new and part time staff.

3. To receive and co-ordinate referrals, arranging action and reviewing services for children and families.

4. To maintain accurate, confidential and up to date documentation on all cases of safeguarding and child protection. Ensuring that all records are forwarded to any new school the child may attend.

5. To work directly with children in need and their families in the community in order to promote, strengthen and develop the potential of parents/carers and their children in order to prevent children becoming looked after and/or suffering significant harm.

6. To support the care of children where their living arrangements are at risk of breakdown (including Local Authority placements).

7. To provide support and guidance to carers and provide planned interventions as part of agreed plans for children.

8. To ensure that students who are victims of abuse are supported appropriately and sensitively and that all actions from planning and intervention meetings are successfully carried out and monitored.

10. To act as a source of support, advice and expertise to staff on matters of safety and safeguarding and when deciding whether to make a referral by liaising with relevant agencies.

11. To encourage a culture of listening to children and taking account of their wishes and feelings on any measure the school might have taken to protect them.



Accountability

1. Work closely with commissioning Children and Families Social Workers along with developing links with and utilising resources of the community as part of agreed plans for children.
2. Attend and participate in Child Protection Conferences and planning and Review meetings whilst working closely with colleagues in Children's Services as required, some of which may take place out of normal working hours. This will include negotiating between child, family and commissioning worker to identify the support package required.
3. Plan and complete professional assessments of need and risk in respect of parents and carers using the Department of Health and the Local Authority criteria for children in need and significant harm. Taking the lead responsibility to co-ordinate the multi-agency approach to prevent and address child protection issues and children in need within the school.
4. To maintain confidentiality at all times.
5. To contribute to service development, including responsibility of the delivery of new staff induction package and arrangements for all staff training.
6. To liaise and co-ordinate with colleagues within the school and outside organisations regarding the Common Assessment Framework and to co-ordinate and monitor all referrals and recommendations within the school.
7. Identify vulnerable children within school and ensure that all staff members are made aware of who these children are.