Safeguarding Policy

Light Hall School

This is a core policy that forms part of the induction for all staff. It is a requirement that all members of staff have access to this policy and sign to say they have read and understood its contents.

Date written	**September 2023**
Date of last update	**September 2023**
Date agreed and ratified by governing body or management committee	**September 2023**
Date of next full review	**November 2025**

This policy will be reviewed at least annually and/or following any updates to national and local guidance and procedures.

1. Key Contacts

	Name	**Contact details**
Headteacher	A Kimblin	**0121 744 3835** akimblin@lighthall.co.uk
Designated safeguarding lead (DSL)	R. McCrainor	**0121 744 3835** **rmccrainor@lighthall.co.uk**
Deputy designated Safeguarding lead	J. Petty	**0121 744 3835** **j.petty@lighthall.co.uk**
Senior mental health lead	R. McCrainor	**0121 744 3835** **rmccrainor@lighthall.co.uk**
Safeguarding governor	V. Henry	**0121 744 3835**

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2. Child-Focused Approach to Safeguarding

2.1. Introduction

The purpose of this policy statement is:

- to protect children and young people who attend Light Hall School from harm;
- to provide staff and volunteers, as well as children and young people and their families, with the overarching principles that guide our approach to safeguarding.

This policy applies to everyone.

2.2. Policy Context

This policy is derived from a variety of legislative provisions and statutory guidance. In particular, it is based upon the requirements and best practice outlined in:

- Keeping Children Safe in Education 2023 (KCSIE)
- Working Together to Safeguard Children 2018 (WTSC)
- Ofsted: Education Inspection Framework' 2023
- Framework for the Assessment of Children in Need and their Families 2000
- Solihull MBC Safeguarding Children Procedures
- Digital and technology standards for schools and colleges (2023)

Section 175 of the Education Act 2002 requires school governing bodies, local education authorities and further education institutions to make arrangements to safeguard and promote the welfare of all children who are pupils at a school, or who are students under 18 years of age. Such arrangements will have to have regard to any guidance issued by the Secretary of State.

The duties for all academies – including all free schools and independent schools – to safeguard and promote the welfare of pupils at the school/college is set down in Part 3 of the schedule to the **Education (Independent School Standards) Regulations 2019**.

Light Hall School's policy reflects these duties and complies with our funding agreement and articles of association.

2.3. Safeguarding Statement

Light Hall School recognise our statutory responsibility to safeguard and promote the welfare of all children. Safeguarding is everybody's responsibility and all those directly connected (staff, volunteers, governors, leaders, parents, families, and learners) are an important part of the wider safeguarding system for children and have an essential role to play in making this community safe and secure.

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Light Hall School believe that the best interests of children always come first. All children (defined as those up to the age of 18) have a right to be heard and to have their wishes and feelings taken into account and all children regardless of age, gender, ability, culture, race, language, religion or sexual identity, have equal rights to protection.

Light Hall School recognises the importance of providing an ethos and environment within school that will help children to be safe and to feel safe. In our school children are respected and are encouraged to talk openly. We will ensure children's wishes and feelings are taken into account when determining what safeguarding action to take and what services to provide.

Our core safeguarding principles are:

Prevention: positive, supportive, safe culture, curriculum and pastoral opportunities for children, safer recruitment procedures.

Protection: following the agreed procedures, ensuring all staff are trained and supported to recognise and respond appropriately and sensitively to safeguarding concerns.

Support: for all learners, parents and staff, and where appropriate specific interventions are required for those who may be at risk of harm.

Working with parents and other agencies: to ensure timely, appropriate communications and actions are undertaken when safeguarding concerns arise.

2.4.Safeguarding Policies and Procedures

We have a number of policies and procedures in place that contribute to our safeguarding commitment, including our child protection policy which can be viewed in the policies section on our website. (Staff – staff handbook and policies section of the staff shared area)

Policies, procedures and requirements	Where you will find the policy/procedure
Child protection* (including online safety, low level concerns policy and child-on-child abuse as required by KCSiE '23)	Website / Staff shared area
Looked after and previously looked after children – designated teacher*	Staff shared area
Pupil premium statement*	Website / Staff shared area
Mental health and wellbeing	Staff shared area
Equality information and objectives*	Website / Staff shared area
Special educational needs and disabilities*	Website / Staff shared area
Accessibility policy	Website / Staff shared area
Premises management documents*	Reception/Operations Directors Office
Healthy and safety*	Staff shared area
Risk assessments*	Staff shared area / staff handbook
First aid*	Staff shared area
Lettings	Staff shared area
Attendance	Website / Staff shared area

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Behaviour policy (control and restraint policy)	Website / Staff shared area
Behaviour principles written statement* (Behaviour policy)	Website / Staff shared area
Exclusions*	Website / Staff shared area
Anti-bullying	Website / Staff shared area
Online safety (E Safety Policy)	Website / Staff shared area
Acceptable use of social media	Staff shared area
Data protection and information sharing*	Website / Staff shared area
Protection of biometric information* (As above)	Website / Staff shared area
Children with health needs who cannot attend school* (Attendance policy)	Website / Staff shared area
Medicines in school* (Supporting students with medical conditions policy)	Staff shared area
Staff discipline, conduct and grievance	Staff shared area
Staff code of conduct	Staff shared area
Statement of procedures for dealing with allegations of abuse against staff* (Managing allegations against staff)	Staff shared area
Safer recruitment	Staff shared area
Single central record of recruitment and vetting checks* (plus as above)	

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Governor code of conduct	Staff shared area
Relationships and sex education*	Website / Staff shared area
Drug and substance abuse policy	Website / Staff shared area
Educational visits	Website / Staff shared area
School complaints*	Website / Staff shared area
Whistleblowing*	Website / Staff shared area
Confidentiality	Website / Staff shared area