

## **C. Child Protection Summary for all Visiting Professionals**

### **Durweston CE VA Primary School**

As an adult either visiting or undertaking direct work with a child(ren) in this school you have a duty of care towards **all** pupils. This means you must always act in a way that is consistent with their safety and welfare.

It is your responsibility to keep your child protection training up to date; you might be asked for evidence of this.

You must follow the principles of safer working practice, which include use of technology – on no account should you contact or take images of pupils on personal equipment, including your mobile 'phone. You will be asked not to use your phone whilst in the school or be asked to hand it in on arrival.

If the behaviour of another adult in the school gives rise to concern you must report as soon possible to the Headteacher.

If you have a concern about a child, particularly if you think s/he may be suffering or at risk of suffering harm, it is your responsibility to share the information promptly with the Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) or the Deputy/ies who are;

### **Julia Saint and Nicola Brooke**

The following is not an exhaustive list, but you might become concerned because of:

- Seeing a physical injury which you believe to be non-accidental
- Observing something in the appearance of a pupil which leads you to think his/her needs are being neglected
- A pupil telling you that s/he has been subjected to some form of abuse

In any of these circumstances you must write down what you observed or heard – in the child's words, date and sign the account and discuss it to the DSL or a Deputy as soon as possible.

If a pupil talks to you about (discloses) sexual or physical abuse you:

- Listen carefully without interruption, particularly if s/he is freely recalling significant events
- Only ask enough questions to clarify what you have heard. You might not need to ask anything but, if you do, you must not 'lead' the pupil in any way, only ask 'open' questions
- Make it clear to the child/young person you have a duty to safeguard them so must pass the information on, but only to those who need to know
- Tell the DSL or Deputy DSL without delay
- Write an account of the disclosure as soon as you are able (the same day), date and sign it and give it to the DSL.

Do not ask the pupil to repeat the disclosure to anyone else in school, ask him/her or any other pupil to write a 'statement', or inform parents. You are not expected to make a judgement about whether the child is telling the truth. **Remember** – share any concerns, don't keep them to yourself.

## Useful Contacts

**Children's Advice and duty Service:** 01305 228558

This service is used for making referrals for both Children's Social Care and Early Help Services.

### Quality Assurance and Partnerships Team

The team comprises Children's Services managers and advisors including:

- The **Safeguarding Advisors** who offer advice and support to schools in relation to safeguarding and child protection issues.

L Bowman: 01305 221122

Email: [SafeguardingAndStandardsAdvisors@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:SafeguardingAndStandardsAdvisors@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk)

- The **Local Authority Designated Officer (LADO)** to whom allegations against adults who work with children in education establishments must be reported.

M Sharp: 01305 221122

Email: [lado@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:lado@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk)