



# Dormston School Safeguarding Policy Child Friendly Version





**Children and young people have a fundamental right to be protected from harm. They have a right to expect their school to provide a safe and secure environment. Here at Dormston we have adopted a 'Culture of vigilance' and will do everything to ensure that you are safe and happy.**

We will create safe environments for students by having robust safeguarding practices such as;

- Ensuring adults who work in the school, including volunteers, don't pose a risk
- Making sure staff are trained, know how to respond to concerns and keep-up-to-date with policy and practice
- Educating students about how to stay safe and recognise the potential warning sign of abuse and harm.
- Maintaining an environment where students feel confident to approach any member of staff if they have a worry or problem.

## **The four main areas of abuse are:**

### **1. Physical Abuse**

Involves; hitting, shaking, throwing, biting, poisoning, burning or scalding, drowning, suffocating or otherwise causing physical harm to a child.

### **2. Sexual Abuse** This includes **Child on Child Abuse**. **Remember, children can abuse children too.**

**Sexual Violence (abuse)** - Rape, assault by penetration, or intentional sexual touching. Be aware sexual abuse doesn't always mean actually touching a child inappropriately. It could be someone making you watch things to do with sex or encouraging you to act in an inappropriate way.

**Sexual Harassment** - unwanted conduct of a sexual nature  
This includes; making sexual comments, sexual jokes or taunting. It also includes interfering with clothes or can be online harassment such as sexting.

### **3. Neglect**

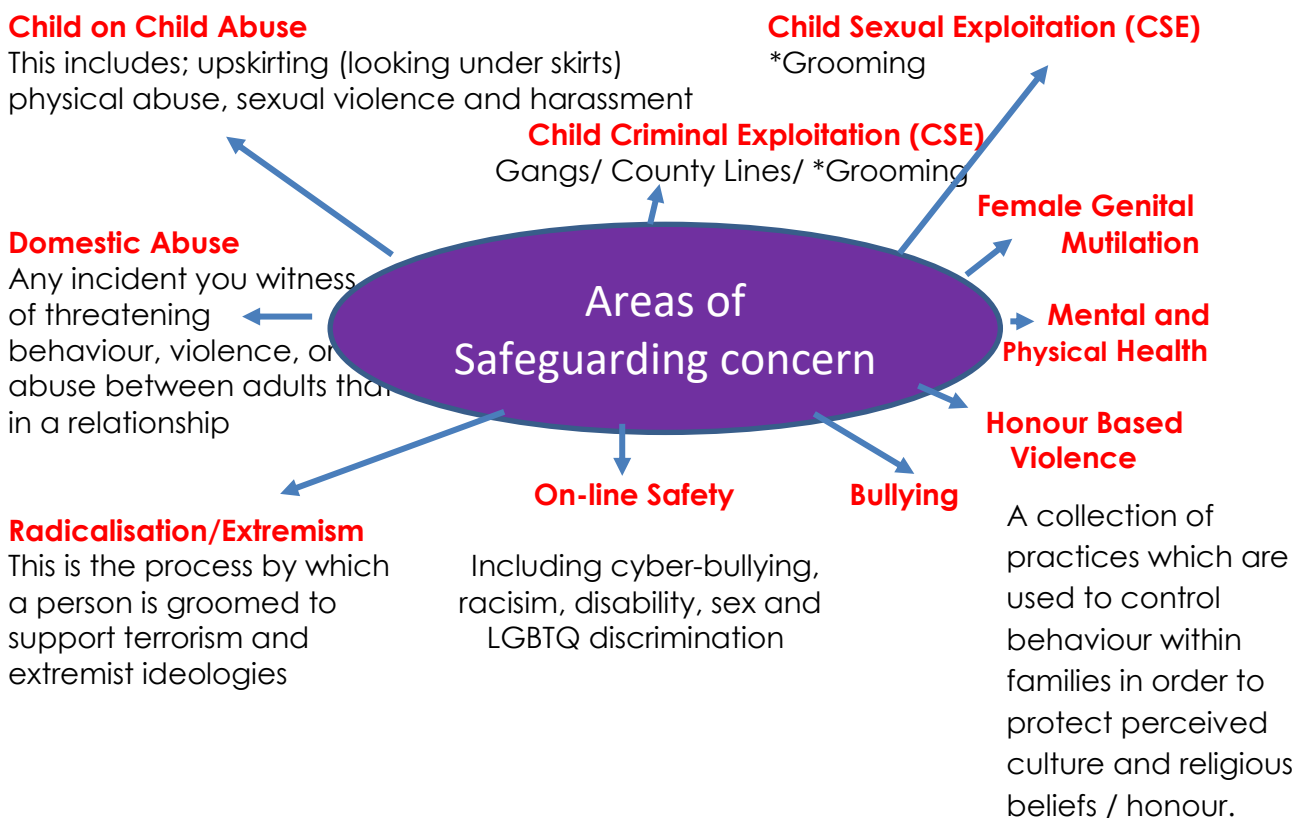
This means things like not providing meals or warmth or clothing. Or perhaps not taking you to the Doctors when you need to go. There may be lots of different reasons why a child is neglected and it is really important that we know so we can help.



#### 4. Emotional Abuse

This means when someone upsets you or makes you feel bad. If someone in your family says horrible things to you and makes you feel sad and worthless.

Please be reassured that we have **zero tolerance approach towards bullying, discrimination and child on child abuse**. It is important that you know that we will never excuse any form of bullying or abuse as 'banter' or just 'children being children'. Each incident is dealt with individually in a proportionate, considered and supportive way. If you report an incident to a member of staff it will be investigated thoroughly by our pastoral team, in a timely manner. The incident will be recorded appropriately, support will be given to both the victim and perpetrator and appropriate sanctions issued.



#### \*What is grooming?

When a person builds a relationship with a child, young person or an adult who's at risk so they can abuse them and manipulate them into doing things. The abuse is usually sexual or financial, but it can also include other illegal acts



## What to do if you are worried?

The above are just a few examples for you and if you think you or someone that you know may have a problem that is similar to one of these then please **don't keep it a secret**.

Who can I talk to?;

1. Form Tutor or a member of staff who you feel you have a good relationship with.
2. Year Leader or Deputy Year Leader
3. Mrs Sutton (Headteacher)
4. Mrs J Elliott (Designated Safeguarding Lead)
5. Mr N Amos (Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead)
6. Ms L Smith (Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead)

## BE HEARD BOX/ Diversity in Dormston email

### What does this mean?

You must **always tell someone** if something does not feel right.

If you feel unable to talk to somebody our BE HEARD BOX is located in the PLC. Write a quick note with your name on and then a safeguarding lead will discreetly come and find you to ensure you get the support that you need. Alternatively email [diversity@dormston.dudley.sch.uk](mailto:diversity@dormston.dudley.sch.uk).

The school website also offers useful links to support children with various concerns.

## Next steps

Sometimes a member of staff at your school will need to check things with the Designated Safeguarding Leads and then if they can they will deal with the issue themselves. There are times though when they may need to contact some other agencies for support. These may be Children's Social Care (Social Workers) or the Police. The main thing is to not be frightened, we will listen to you and make sure that you understand how we are going to support you.

There are lots of other agencies who support children and their families as well.

Staff at Dormston school will always talk to you and explain all of this and you can always go and ask them questions if you are unsure about anything.



## Keeping yourself safe inside and outside of school

All of the staff at Dormston school will do their best to make sure the building is safe for you to learn in and spend time in. We will make sure that we know who everyone is in the school by asking visitors to sign in at reception. You will always know who is a visitor to the school because they will have signed in at reception and will be wearing a visitor badge on a **green lanyard**. A **RED lanyard** means that the visitor must always have another member of staff with them. If you see a visitor with a **RED lanyard** on their own in the school, please tell a member of staff immediately.

People that we do not know will never be allowed to spend time with you on your own and will not be allowed to walk around the school without a member of staff.

We have over 160 CCTV cameras around school which record activity around the school buildings, outside areas and playing fields. This helps to ensure that the school is as safe as it can be for you but outside these perimeters your safety can not be guaranteed.

Make sure you follow the stranger danger rules when walking to and from school and try and walk in small groups where ever possible. Remember if a stranger approaches you that it is ok to ignore them. Head straight back to school or home. Phone a member of your family if you have a phone or head into your nearest shop and seek help.

Here at Dormston school we regularly update our school website, where you will find an area specially designed to provide you with safeguarding advice and support.

## On the computer or your phone

Computers and mobile phones help us all to share things and talk to our friends or family, but they can also make it easier for bullies and other people that want to hurt you to get close to you. It is important to know how to keep yourself safe on your computer, your phone and on websites.

Dormston school has an on-line safety policy and a staff and student Acceptable Use Policy, which is there to protect you. You will also receive an e-safety assembly at the start of the academic year. Within school we use a forensic monitoring system, this means that any keystroke that are made on a computer are monitored closely by our IT team and Pastoral Staff. If you are unhappy with any comments or photographs you have seen on your computer or mobile then you should tell someone at school or alternatively you can contact [www.thinkuknow.co.uk](http://www.thinkuknow.co.uk).