



**Safeguarding
Children and Young People**

London College of Media
2019

Introduction to safeguarding

Safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children is defined in the HM Government guidance ‘*Working Together to Safeguard Children*’ (2010) as the process of:

- **protecting children (anyone under the age of eighteen) from maltreatment**
- **preventing impairment of children’s health and development**
- **ensuring that children grow up in circumstances consistent with the provision of safe and effective care**
- **Enabling those children to have optimum life chances and enter adulthood successfully.**
-

What is Safeguarding?

Safeguarding refers to the process of protecting children (and adults) to provide safe and effective care. This includes all procedures designed to prevent harm to a child.

”
.

Key Policy and Legislation – children and young people

Safeguarding children is based in legislation and policy placing certain duties and responsibilities on agencies to investigate and/or work together.

- Children Act 1989
- Protection of Children Act 1999
- Adoption and Children Act 2002
- EveryChildMatters2003
- NationalServiceFramework2004
- Children Act 2004
- Local Safeguarding Children Board functions
- What to do if you are worried a child is being abused 2006
- Children and Young People Act 2008
- WorkingTogethertoSafeguardChildren2010
-

Safeguarding: 6 Principals

Empowerment

People are supported and encouraged to make their own decisions and informed consent.

“I am asked what I want as the outcomes from the safeguarding process and this directly inform what happens.”

Prevention

It is better to take action before harm occurs.

“I receive clear and simple information about what abuse is. I know how to recognise the signs, and I know what I can do to seek help.”

Proportionality

The least intrusive response appropriate to the risk presented.

“I am sure that the professionals will work in my interest and they will only get involved as much as is necessary.”

Protection

Support and representation for those in greatest need.

“I get help and support to report abuse and neglect. I get help so that I am able to take part in the safeguarding process to the extent to which I want.”

Partnership

Services offer local solutions through working closely with their communities.

Communities have a part to play in preventing, detecting and reporting neglect and abuse.

“I know that staff treat any personal and sensitive information in confidence, only sharing what is helpful and necessary. I am confident that professionals will work together and with me to get the best result for me.”

Accountability

Accountability and transparency in delivering safeguarding.

“I understand the role of everyone involved in my life and so do they.”

What is abuse and neglect? (child)

“Abuse and neglect are forms of maltreatment of a child. Someone may abuse or neglect a child by inflicting harm, or failing to act to prevent harm. Children may be abused in a family or institutional or community setting, by those known to them or...a stranger...They may be abused by an adult/adults or child/children” (WT 2010 p37-8)

Categories of abuse - child

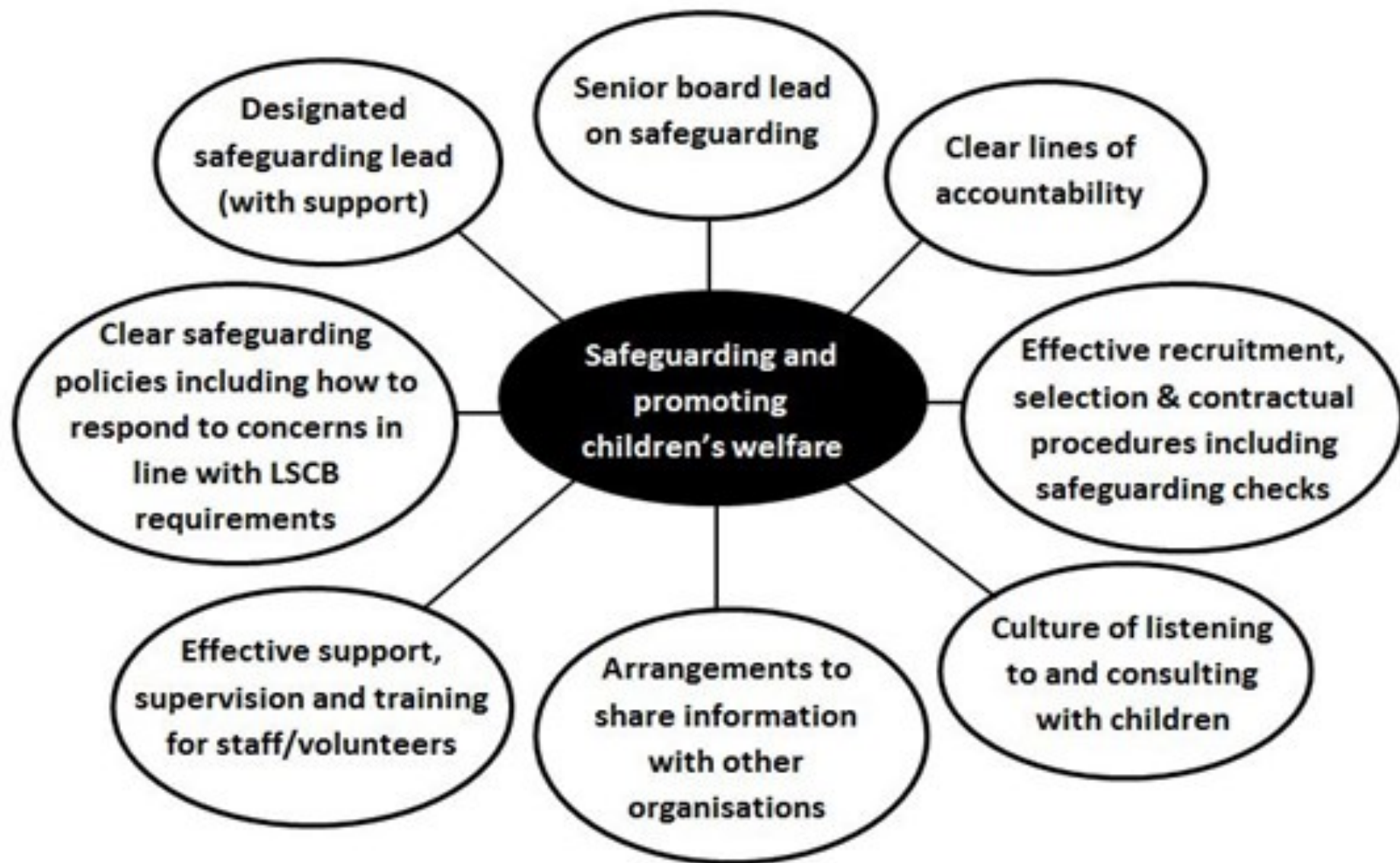
- **Physical**
- **Sexual**
- **Emotional**
- **Neglect**

Agencies involved in safeguarding children

- **Local authority – eg social care, housing, education**
- **Police Authority**
- **Health – PCT, Hospital Trust**
- **Probation Service**
- **Youth Offending Service**
- **Cafcass**
- **Connexions**

Safeguarding requirements for an organisation

Working Together to Safeguard Children 2010 outlines the duties of all organisations that work with children. These are summarised in the diagram below:



Possible Indicators of Physical Abuse

Possible Indicators of Physical Abuse

Fractures

Burns

Bed sores

Neglect and Acts of Omission

Untreated medical problems

Bed sores

Psychological and Emotional Abuse

Depression

Confusion Loss of sleep

Sexual Abuse

Unexpected or unexplained change in behaviour

Bruising

Soreness around the genitals

Pregnancy

Rape

Financial Abuse

Unexplained withdrawals from the bank

Financial and Material Abuse

Unusual activity in the bank accounts

Unpaid bills

Unexplained shortage of money

Fraud

Theft

Organisational Abuse

Lack of consideration of dietary requirements

Name calling; inappropriate ways of addressing people

Lack of adequate physical care – an unkempt appearance

Self-Neglect

Domestic Abuse

Controlling

Threatening behaviour

Violence

Forced marriage

Discriminatory Abuse

Types of child abuse

- **Domestic abuse**
- **Sexual abuse**
- **Neglect**
- **Online abuse**
- **Physical abuse**
- **Emotional abuse**
- **Bullying**
- **Child trafficking**

Consent issues - child

- **Safeguarding everybody's business. If concerns arise about a child these must be reported to the local Children's Services team (Social Services) and/or police to investigate. You do not need consent from the child or parent/guardian although it is good practice to inform them of any decision to refer on unless this would put the child at greater risk of harm.**

NSPCC

The National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children (NSPCC) is a leading **charity** campaigning and working in child protection in the United Kingdom and the Channel Islands.

Call on **0808 800 5000**. Calls to **0808 800 5000** are free from landlines and most mobiles. You can text or email us for a call back. If you text, please provide your telephone number and name (or false name if you prefer).

What we do?

We can work with families to prevent abuse

Severe problems such as poverty, [drug or alcohol addiction](#) or [mental health issues](#) can overload our capacity to care for children and can lead to a child being abused or neglected. Sometimes children themselves struggle to treat other children as they should.

That's not to say difficult circumstances inevitably lead to abuse, or that abuse can ever be excused. But these circumstances do make it more likely to happen.

By giving families the right support at the right time – from counselling or good foster care to a helping hand from a neighbour – we can help them manage these problems and give a child a more stable platform to grow up.

For more information....

London College of Media
West Midlands House
Gipsy Lane, Willenhall
West Midlands, WV13 2HA
United Kingdom

T: 01902275538

W: www.londoncollegeofmedia.com

E: admin@londoncollegeofmedia.com