



# Pilgrims School

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## Safeguarding Children Policy

September 2019


Next review date: September 2020

Please note: 'School' refers to Early Years Foundation Stage (Little Pilgrims and Pre School) and Pilgrims Main School.



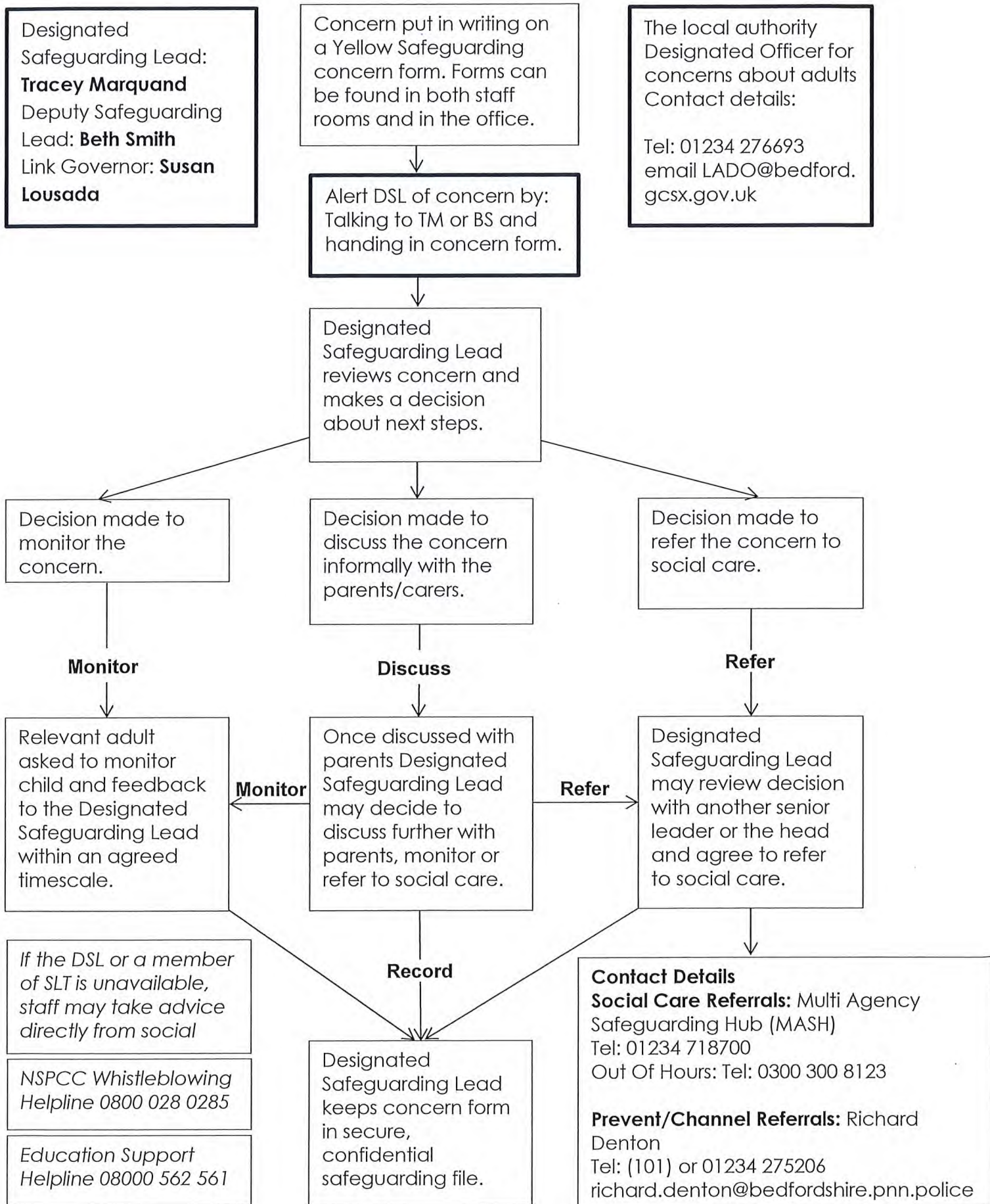
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<b>Signed by Chair of Governors</b>	
<b>Reviewed annually, date last reviewed</b>	



## FLOW CHART FOR RAISING SAFEGUARDING CONCERNS ABOUT A CHILD





**Please note: 'School' refers to Early Years Foundation Stage (Little Pilgrims and Pre School) and Pilgrims Main School.**

## **1. Introduction and Ethos**

- Pilgrims Pre-Preparatory School is a community and all those directly connected (staff, volunteers, governors, parents, families and pupils) have an essential role to play in making it safe and secure. We recognise our statutory responsibility to safeguard and promote the welfare of all children regardless of age, disability, gender reassignment, race, religion or belief, sex, or sexual orientation.
- This policy aims to provide all members of staff, volunteers, governors and families/carers with a clear and secure framework for ensuring that all children in the school are protected from harm, both while at school and when away from the school premises.
- We recognise that we should 'think the unthinkable' and be aware that serious safeguarding issues can arise in any school including ours.
- We recognise the importance of providing an ethos and environment within school that will help children to be safe and feel safe. This is underpinned by our school values of kindness, curiosity and respect. In our school children are respected and encouraged to talk openly. We understand that emotional and social aspects of learning create a foundation for all learning. If a child has not been supported to understand, express and resolve their feelings, they may not have the ability to share with other children, resolve the small conflicts that arise in day-to-day classroom life, or concentrate on learning. Their frustrations may cause a range of antisocial, disruptive, overly compliant or withdrawn behaviours.
- Our school is committed to embedding and promoting a whole school approach to emotional health, wellbeing and resilience.

## **2. Aims**

In order to ensure children are protected, we will ensure that:

- All staff, regular volunteers\* and governors are subject to rigorous recruitment procedures which include enhanced DBS checks.
  - \* For the purpose of assessing whether a person is working in regulated activity, 'regular' includes 'frequent' and these are defined together as follows:
    - Frequently (once a week or more often)
    - Or on 4 or more days in a 30 day period
- We have a Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) and a Deputy DSL who undergo training to provide them with the knowledge and skills required to carry out the role at least once every two years. In addition to their formal training, as set out above, their knowledge and skills are updated at regular intervals, but at least annually, to keep up with any developments relevant to their role. The designated safeguarding lead will undertake Prevent awareness training and will cascade to all staff.
- All staff and governors are trained in basic Child Protection awareness every two years.
- Regular safeguarding learning and development takes place for all staff and governors.
- All staff, volunteers and governors have read and understand the Safeguarding Children Policy and are aware of the indicators of child abuse and how to respond to concerns or disclosures of abuse by children.



- Staff are aware that when recognising abuse in pupils with special educational needs and disabilities, additional barriers can exist.
- Staff consider the wider environmental factors in a child's life that may be a threat to their safety and/or welfare (Contextual Safeguarding).
- All staff, volunteers and governors have read at least Part 1 of 'Keeping Children Safe in Education', current guidance and this includes Annex A which has important additional information about specific forms of abuse and safeguarding issues.
- We have a designated co-ordinator who is responsible for children's pastoral care and SEND which includes behaviour, wellbeing and any additional identified provision. They will liaise with other professionals and agencies where appropriate.
- Our parents are aware of the Safeguarding Policy and the policy is published on the school's website.
- Children feel listened to, valued and respected and are given opportunities to recognise when they are at risk and how to get help when they need it.
- We have developed and implemented an effective online safety policy and related procedures.
- We have a designated governor for safeguarding.
- The safeguarding children policy is reviewed at least annually by the DSL and the governing body and as necessary in line with updated guidance.
- We will use our safeguarding procedures to share concerns and relevant information with agencies who need to know, and involving children, young people, parents, families and carers appropriately.
- We will use LSCB\* escalation procedures if needed to raise our concerns about the way that a referral has been followed up by children's social care.  
[http://bedfordscb.proceduresonline.com/chapters/p\\_reolution\\_disagree.html](http://bedfordscb.proceduresonline.com/chapters/p_reolution_disagree.html)
- All staff are clear as to whether and what information they can share with colleagues and/or partners including information about parents. Information is recorded and stored professionally and securely.
- Access to information should be on a need to know basis and decided case by case.
- Confidentiality is respected as far as possible but the child's welfare is paramount.
- We use our procedures to manage any allegations against staff and volunteers appropriately.
- We create and maintain an anti-bullying environment and ensure that we have a policy and procedure to help us deal effectively with any bullying that does arise.
- We have effective complaints and whistleblowing measures in place.
- We provide a safe physical environment for our children, staff and volunteers, by applying health and safety measures in accordance with the law and regulatory guidance.

\* LSCB – A Local Safeguarding Board, is a multi-agency body set up in every local authority. Ours is the Bedford Borough Safeguarding Children Board. The Chair will work closely with the Director of Children's Services. The role of the LSCB is to coordinate what is done by everyone on the LSCB to safeguard and promote the welfare of children in the area. [www.bedford.gov.uk/LSCB](http://www.bedford.gov.uk/LSCB)

### 3. Definition of Safeguarding

Safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children is defined as<sup>1</sup>:

- Protecting children from maltreatment;
- Preventing impairment of children's health or development;
- Ensuring that children grow up in circumstances consistent with the provision of safe and effective care;

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<sup>1</sup> (Source: Keeping Children Safe in Education (2018) paragraph 4)