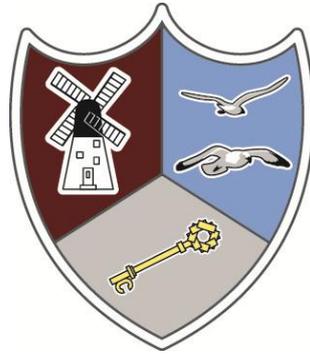


Proud to be a  Bright Futures EDUCATIONAL TRUST school

Marston Primary Academy and Nursery



Working Together To Be The Best We Can Be

Managing Allegations Against Other Pupils

Approved for adoption by the Governing Body
25th March 2015

MARTON PRIMARY ACADEMY AND NURSERY
MANAGING ALLEGATIONS AGAINST OTHER PUPILS

‘Working Together To Be The Best We Can Be’

Approved for Adoption by the Full Governing Body 25th March 2015

INTRODUCTION

At Marton Primary Academy and Nursery we believe that all children have a right to attend school and learn in a safe environment. Children should be free from harm by adults in the school and other pupils.

We recognise that some pupils will sometimes negatively affect the learning and wellbeing of others and their behaviour will be dealt with using the academy’s Behaviour Policy. Occasionally however, allegations may be made against pupils by other pupils in the school, which are of a safeguarding nature

This policy is intended to raise staff awareness of the possibility of such occasions, minimising risk and assist staff in preparing and planning a response if such action is required.

This policy has been compiled in response to the following legislation:

- **DfE Keeping Children Safe in Education April 2014.**

LINKS TO OTHER POLICIES

This policy should be read in conjunction with:

- Safeguarding Policy
- Behaviour Management Policy

SAFEGUARDING ALLEGATIONS

Safeguarding issues raised by pupils against other pupils may include physical abuse, emotional abuse, sexual abuse and sexual exploitation. It is likely that to be considered a safeguarding allegation against a pupil, some of the following features will be found.

The allegation:

- is made against an older pupil and refers to their behaviour towards a younger pupil or a more vulnerable pupil;
- is of a serious nature, possibly including a criminal offence;

- raises risk factors for other pupils in the school;
- indicates that other pupils may have been affected by this pupil;
- indicates that young people outside the school may be affected by this pupil.

Examples of safeguarding issues against a pupil could include:

Physical Abuse

- violence, particularly pre-planned
- forcing others to smoke, use drugs or alcohol

Emotional Abuse

- blackmail or extortion
- threats and intimidation

Sexual Abuse

- indecent exposure, indecent touching or serious sexual assaults
- forcing others to watch pornography or take part in sexting

Sexual Exploitation

- encouraging other children to attend inappropriate parties
- photographing or videoing other children performing indecent acts

MINIMISING THE RISK OF SAFEGUARDING CONCERNS TOWARDS PUPILS FROM OTHER PUPILS

Appropriate adult supervision will be provided. Adults will be vigilant at all times to ensure children are working and playing safely. Hot spots such as dens, play houses and piles of coats will be closely monitored.

In addition, as part of the PSHE curriculum, children will learn about appropriate touch in an age appropriate way.

However, it is recognized that on occasion, some pupils will present a safeguarding risk to other pupils. The school should be informed by the appropriate services if a pupil raises safeguarding concerns, for example they have experienced serious abuse themselves.

These pupils will be issued with individual risk management plan to ensure that other pupils are kept safe and they themselves are not laid open to malicious allegations.

PROCEDURES

When an allegation is made by a pupil against another pupil or inappropriate behavior is observed, members of staff should consider whether the complaint/observation raises a safeguarding concern. If there is a safeguarding concern the Designated Safeguarding Officer (DSO) should be informed.

A factual record should be made of the allegation on the Academy's Concerns Log. However, at this stage no attempt should be made to investigate the circumstances.

The DSO should contact social services to discuss the case. It is possible that social services are already aware of safeguarding concerns around this young person. The DSO will follow through the outcomes of the discussion and make a social services referral where appropriate.

The DSO will make a record of the concern, the discussion and any outcome and keep a copy in the files of both pupils' files.

If the allegation indicates a potential criminal offence has taken place, the police should be contacted at the earliest opportunity and parents informed (of both the pupil being complained about and the alleged victim).

It may be appropriate to exclude the pupil being complained about for a period of time according to the school's behaviour policy and procedures.

Where neither social services nor the police accept the complaint, a thorough school investigation should take place into the matter using the school's usual disciplinary procedures.

In situations where the school considers a safeguarding risk is present, a risk assessment should be prepared along with a preventative, supervision plan.

MONITORING & REVIEW

This policy will be reviewed annually as part of the safeguarding review calendar.

Signature of the Chair of Governors: *Trish Latimer* Date: 25/03/15
Mrs Trish Latimer

Signature of the Principal: *Ruth Coupe* Date: 25/03/15
Mrs Ruth Coupe