



## **Allegations of Abuse against Staff and Volunteers Policy**

**This Birmingham Local Safeguarding Children's Board (BLSCB) policy has been adopted by Bells Farm Primary School with effect from September 2015. It will be subject to annual review or following BLSCB guidelines if these are subject to change within this year.**

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### **Equal Opportunities**

At Bells Farm we will continuously strive to ensure that everyone in our school is treated with respect and dignity. Each person in our school will be given fair and equal opportunity to develop their full potential with positive regard to gender, ethnicity, cultural and religious background, sexuality or disability.

### **Safeguarding**

The welfare and safety of children who attend our school is our paramount concern. We will promote the health, well-being and safety of the pupils in all we do. We recognise that our children have the right to protection, regardless of age, gender, race, culture or disability. We understand our responsibilities set out under section 175 of the 2002 Education Act and the latest version of the Statutory DfE Guidance 'Keeping Children Safe in Education' to work together in partnership with other agencies to help children to grow up in a healthy and safe environment.

### **1. Introduction and Criteria**

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All allegations of abuse of children by those who work with children must be taken seriously. Allegations against any person, who works with children, whether in a paid or unpaid capacity, cover a wide range of circumstances.

This procedure should be applied when there is such an allegation or concern that a person who works with children (meaning all paid or unpaid staff / professionals and volunteers), has:

- Behaved in a way that has harmed a child, or may have harmed a child;
- Possibly committed a criminal offence against or related to a child;
- Behaved towards a child or children in a way that indicates he or she may pose a risk of harm to children.



These behaviours should be considered within the context of the four categories of abuse (i.e. physical, sexual and emotional abuse and neglect). These include, but are not limited to, concerns relating to inappropriate relationships between members of staff and children or young people, for example:

- Having a sexual relationship with a child under 18 if in a position of trust in respect of that child, even if consensual (see ss16-19 **Sexual Offences Act 2003**);
- 'Grooming', i.e. meeting a child under 16 with intent to commit a relevant offence (see s15 **Sexual Offences Act 2003**);
- Other 'grooming' behaviour giving rise to concerns of a broader child protection nature (e.g. inappropriate text / e-mail messages or images, gifts, socialising etc);
- Possession of indecent photographs / pseudo-photographs of children;
- Excessive use of force in restraining a child/young person;
- Inappropriate use of isolation/restriction.

If concerns arise about the person's behaviour to her/his own children, the police and/or children's social care must consider informing the employer / organisation in order to assess whether there may be implications for children with whom the person has contact at work / in the organisation, in which case this procedure will apply.

Allegations of historical abuse should be responded to in the same way as contemporary concerns. In such cases, it is important to find out whether the person against whom the allegation is made is still working with children and if so, to inform the person's current employer or voluntary organisation or refer their family for assessment. Allegations against a teacher who is no longer teaching should be referred to the police.

All references in this document to ' staff or members of staff' should be interpreted as meaning all paid or unpaid staff / professionals and volunteers, including for example foster carers, approved adopters and child minders. This also applies to any person, who manages or facilitates access to an establishment where children are present.

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## 2. Roles and Responsibilities

Working Together 2015 states:

*County level and unitary local authorities should ensure that allegations against people who work with children are not dealt with in isolation. Any action necessary to address corresponding welfare concerns in relation to the child or children involved should be taken without delay and in a coordinated manner. Local authorities should, in addition, have designated a particular officer, or team of officers (either as part of multi-agency arrangements or otherwise), to be involved in the management and oversight of allegations against people that work with children. Any such officer, or team of officers, should be sufficiently qualified and experienced to be able to fulfil this role effectively, for example qualified social workers. Any new appointments to such a role, other than current or former designated officers moving between local authorities, should be qualified social workers. Arrangements should be put in place to ensure that any allegations about those who work with children are passed to the designated officer, or team of officers, without delay.*

*Local authorities should put in place arrangements to provide advice and guidance on how to deal with allegations against people who work with children to employers and voluntary organisations. Local authorities should also ensure that there are appropriate arrangements in place to effectively liaise with the police and other agencies to monitor the progress of cases and ensure that they are dealt with as quickly as possible, consistent with a thorough and fair process.*

The school has appointed:

- A designated senior manager to whom allegations or concerns should be reported; this is Barbara Butterworth, the head teacher
- Another senior person to whom reports should be made in the absence of the designated senior manager or where that person is the subject of the allegation or concern. This is Wendy McClelland, the Deputy Head teacher.

Birmingham City Council have a Local Authority Designated Officer (LADO) Team who will:

- Receive reports about allegations and to be involved in the management and oversight of individual cases;



- Provide advice and guidance to employers and voluntary organisations;
- Liaise with the police and other agencies;
- Monitor the progress of cases to ensure that they are dealt with as quickly as possible consistent with a thorough and fair process;
- Provide advice and guidance to employers in relation to making referrals to the **Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS)** and regulatory bodies such as Ofsted, the GMC etc. and
- Chair strategy meetings where there is concern about a person in a position of trust.

The LADO Team can be contacted on Tel: 0121 675 1669.

### **3. General Considerations Relating to Allegations Against Staff**

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#### **Persons to be notified**

When an allegation is made the school must inform the LADO team within one working day and prior to any further investigation taking place.

The LADO team will advise the employer whether or not informing the parents of the child/ren involved will impede the disciplinary or investigative processes. Acting on this advice, if it is agreed that the information can be fully or partially shared, the employer should inform the parent/s/carer/s. In some circumstances, however, the parent/s/carer/s may need to be told straight away (e.g. if a child is injured and requires medical treatment).

The initial sharing of information and evaluation may lead to a decision that no further action is taken in which case this decision and justification for it should be recorded by both the case manager and the designated officer and an agreement reached on what should be put in writing to the individual concerned and by whom.

The parent/s/carer/s and the child, if sufficiently mature, should be helped to understand the processes involved and be kept informed about the progress of the case and of the outcome where there is no criminal prosecution. This will include the outcome of any disciplinary process, but not the deliberations of, or the information used in, a hearing.



The school will seek advice from the LADO team, the police and / or children's social care about how much information should be disclosed to the suspected person.

Subject to restrictions on the information that can be shared, the school will, as soon as possible, inform the suspected person about the nature of any allegation, how enquiries will be conducted and the possible outcome (e.g. disciplinary action, or referral to the DBS and/or a regulatory body).

The suspected member of staff will:

- Informed of the allegation as soon as possible after consulting the LA designated officer. However, where a strategy discussion is needed, or police or social care services need to be involved, the case manager should not do that until those agencies have been consulted and have agreed what information can be disclosed;
- Be treated fairly and honestly and helped to understand the concerns expressed and processes involved;
- Be kept informed of the progress and outcome of any investigation and the implications for any disciplinary or related process;
- If suspended, be kept up to date about events in the workplace.

When an allegation is made against a foster carer, prospective adopter, or member of staff in a residential child care facility the registered person must notify Ofsted.

### **Confidentiality**

Every effort will be made to maintain confidentiality and guard against publicity while an allegation is being investigated or considered. Apart from keeping the child, parents and suspected person (where this would not place the child at further risk) up to date with progress of the case, information will be restricted to those who have a need to know in order to protect children, facilitate enquiries, manage related disciplinary or suitability processes.

Section 13 of the Education Act 2011 places restrictions on the publication of any information that would identify a teacher who is the subject of an allegation of misconduct that would constitute a criminal offence, where the alleged victim of the offence is a registered pupil at the school.



Such restrictions remain in place unless or until the teacher is charged with a criminal offence, though the Magistrates' Court may dispense with them if it is satisfied that it is in the interests of justice to do so, having regard to the welfare of:

- a. The person who is the subject of the allegation; and
- b. The victim of the offence to which the allegation relates.

There is a right of appeal to the Crown Court.

This restriction will apply to allegations made against any teacher who works at Bells Farm Primary School, including supply and peripatetic teachers. 'School' includes academies, Free Schools, independent schools and all types of maintained schools. It is the policy of Birmingham Safeguarding Children Board that agencies should act as if similar restrictions applied in respect of other persons in a position of trust.

There is an offence of publishing any information in breach of these restrictions. Publication includes any communication, in whatever form, which is addressed to the public at large or any section of the public.

### **Support**

The organisation, together with children's social care and / or police, where they are involved, should consider the impact on the child concerned and provide support as appropriate. Liaison between the agencies should take place in order to ensure that the child's needs are addressed.

As soon as possible after an allegation has been received, the suspected member of staff should be advised to contact their union or professional association. Human resources should be consulted at the earliest opportunity in order that appropriate support can be provided via the organisation's occupational health or employee welfare arrangements.

### **Suspension**

Suspension is a neutral act and it should not be automatic. It should be considered in any case where:

- There is cause to suspect a child is at risk of significant harm; or
- The allegation warrants investigation by the police; or



- The allegation is so serious that it might be grounds for dismissal.

The possible risk of harm to children should be evaluated and managed in respect of the child/ren involved and any other children in the accused member of staff's home, work or community life.

If a strategy meeting / discussion is to be held or if children's social care or the police are to make enquiries, the LADO team should canvass their views on suspension and inform the employer. Only the employer, however, has the power to suspend an accused employee and they cannot be required to do so by a local authority or police.

If the suspension is lifted and the person is to return to work, the employer should consider what help and support might be appropriate (e.g. a phased return to work and/or provision of a mentor), and also how best to manage the member of staff's contact with the child concerned, if still in the workplace.

### **Resignations and 'compromise agreements'**

Every effort should be made to reach a conclusion in all cases even if:

- The individual refuses to cooperate, having been given a full opportunity to answer the allegation and make representations;
- It may not be possible to apply any disciplinary sanctions if a person's period of notice expires before the process is complete.

'Compromise agreements' must **not** be used (i.e. where a member of staff agrees to resign provided that disciplinary action is not taken and that a future reference is agreed). A settlement/compromise agreement which prevents the employer from making a DBS referral when the criteria are met for so doing would likely result in a criminal offence being committed for failure to comply with the duty to refer.

### **Organised abuse**

Investigators should be alert to signs of organised or widespread abuse and/or the involvement of other perpetrators or institutions. They should consider whether the matter should be dealt with in accordance with complex abuse procedures which, if applicable, will take priority. See **Organised and Complex Abuse Procedure**.





## **Whistle-blowing**

All staff should be made aware of their organisation's whistle-blowing policy and feel confident to voice concerns about the attitude or actions of colleagues. Please see Whistle blowing policy for further guidance and information.

If a member of staff believes that a reported allegation or concern is not being dealt with appropriately by their organisation, they should report the matter to the LADO team.

## **Timescales**

It is in everyone's interest for cases to be dealt with expeditiously, fairly and thoroughly and for unnecessary delays to be avoided. The target timescales provided in the flowchart at the end of this chapter are realistic in most cases, but some cases will take longer because of their specific nature or complexity.

## **4. Initial Response to an Allegation or Concern**

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An allegation against a member of staff may arise from a number of sources (e.g. a report from a child, a concern raised by another adult in the organisation, or a complaint by a parent). It may also arise in the context of the member of staff and their life outside work or at home.

### **Initial action by person receiving or identifying an allegation or concern**

The person to whom an allegation or concern is first reported should treat the matter seriously and keep an open mind.

They should not:

- Investigate or ask leading questions if seeking clarification;
- Make assumptions or offer alternative explanations;
- Promise confidentiality, but give assurance that the information will only be shared on a 'need to know' basis.





They should:

- Make a written record of the information (where possible in the child / adult's own words), including the time, date and place of incident/s, persons present and what was said;
- Sign and date the written record;
- Immediately discuss the issue with the designated senior manager, or where the designated senior manager is absent or is the subject of the allegation, with the deputy or other appropriate senior manager.

### **Initial action by the designated senior manager**

Discussion with the named senior manager should lead to one or more of the following outcomes:

- Outcome: Referral to children's social care - person in position of trust referral.  
There are grounds to suspect that the person in a position of trust may have abused that position putting one or more children at risk of significant harm. In all such cases an immediate referral must be made to the LADO Team;
- Outcome: Referral to children's social care of a child who may be at risk of significant harm.  
There are grounds to suspect that the child has been abused but there is no reason to suspect that this is as a result of the actions of a person in a position of trust. In all such cases an immediate referral must be made to children's social care. Children's social care will carry out an assessment and decide whether to initiate s47 enquiries;
- Outcome: Inform the regulatory body relevant to the role of the person in a position of trust.  
For example Ofsted or the Care Quality Commission;
- Outcome: No further action.  
The person in a position of trust acted appropriately and therefore no further action is to be taken under these procedures;
- Outcome: Review of internal policy & procedures.  
The person in a position of trust has acted inappropriately but it is not a child



protection issue: the action taken lay within the bounds of agency policy and procedures and there is therefore a need to review these policies and procedures. The decision that this outcome is, or is not, appropriate may depend on the level of knowledge and experience of the person in a position of trust;

- Outcome: Disciplinary/training  
The person in a position of trust has acted inappropriately but it is not a child protection issue; the action taken was in breach of accepted agency policies and procedures and disciplinary action and/or training may be needed;
- Outcome: False allegation  
The person in a position of trust is the subject of an unfounded allegation;
- Outcome: Requires LADO advice  
If the named senior manager has any doubt about whether the matter should be referred on, they should discuss the issues with the LADO team;
- Outcome: Inform but not refer  
In some cases the named senior manager may decide that a referral to children's social care is not required, but that it is likely that another person will report the matter to one of the statutory agencies. In this situation it is best practice for the named senior manager to contact children's social care and the police and inform them of the circumstances.

The designated senior manager will record discussions about the child and/or member of staff, any decisions made, and the reasons for those decisions.

If the designated senior manager concludes that a professional may have put a child at risk of significant harm, s/he must report the allegation to the LADO team (Tel: 0121 675 1669) and discuss the decision in relation to the agreed threshold criteria in **Section 1, Introduction and Criteria** within one working day. Referrals should not be delayed in order to gather information and a failure to report an allegation or concern in accordance with procedures is a potential disciplinary matter.

If an allegation requires immediate attention, but is received outside normal office hours, the designated senior manager should consult the children's social care emergency duty team (Tel: 0121 675 4806) or local police and inform the LADO team as soon as possible.



If a police officer receives an allegation, they should, without delay, report it to the designated detective sergeant on the public protection unit. The detective sergeant should then immediately inform the LADO team.

Similarly an allegation made to children's social care should be immediately reported to the LADO team.

### **Initial consideration by the designated senior manager and the LADO team**

There are up to three strands in the consideration of an allegation:

- A police investigation of a possible criminal offence;
- Children's social care enquiries and/or assessment about whether a child is in need of protection or services;
- Consideration by an employer of disciplinary action.

A principal officer in the LADO team and the designated senior manager should consider first whether further details are needed and whether there is evidence or information that establishes that the allegation is false or unfounded. Care should be taken to ensure that the child is not confused as to dates, times, locations or identity of the member of staff.

If the allegation is not demonstrably false and there is cause to suspect that a child is suffering or is likely to suffer significant harm, the LADO team should refer to children's social care and ask them to convene an immediate strategy meeting / discussion:

- If a child is not believed to have suffered, or to be likely to suffer **Significant Harm** but a police investigation will continue, the principal officer should conduct this discussion with the police, the designated senior manager and any other agencies involved to evaluate the allegation and decide how it should be dealt with;
- This Evaluation discussion should take place within one working day and must consider how to take matters forward in a criminal process parallel with a disciplinary process or whether any disciplinary action will need to await the completion of the police enquiries and/or prosecution. The progress should be reviewed by the police no later than four weeks after the initial evaluation meeting and thereafter at fortnightly or monthly intervals.



### Strategy meeting / discussion

Wherever possible, a strategy meeting / discussion should take the form of a meeting. However, on occasions a telephone discussion may be justified. The following is a list of possible participants:

- The LADO team;
- Social care manager to chair (if a **Strategy Meeting**);
- Relevant social worker and their manager;
- Detective sergeant;
- The Designated and/or named Safeguarding Children Health Professional (**CCG**); and always when an allegation concerns a health agency worker /professional;
- Consultant paediatrician;
- Designated senior manager for the employer concerned;
- Human resources representative;
- Legal adviser where appropriate;
- Senior representative of the employment agency or voluntary organisation if applicable;
- Manager from the fostering service provider when an allegation is made against a foster carer;
- Supervising social worker when an allegation is made against a foster carer;
- Those responsible for regulation and inspection where applicable (e.g. CQC, GMC or Ofsted);
- Where a child is placed or resident in the area of another authority, representative/s of relevant agencies in that area;  
(The LADO responsible for coordinating investigations is the LADO for the area in which any alleged incident took place, but the agencies that have direct contact with the child may be in another area)
- Complaints officer if the concern has arisen from a complaint.



The strategy meeting / discussion should:

- Decide whether there should be a Section 47 Enquiry and / or police investigation and consider the implications;
- Consider whether any parallel disciplinary process can take place and agree protocols for sharing information;
- Consider the current allegation in the context of any previous allegations or concerns;
- Where appropriate, take account of any entitlement by staff to use reasonable force to control or restrain children (e.g. **section 93, Education and Inspections Act 2006** in respect of teachers and authorised staff);
- Consider whether a complex abuse investigation is applicable; see **Organised and Complex Abuse Procedure**;
- Plan enquiries if needed, allocate tasks and set timescales;
- Decide what information can be shared, with whom and when.

The strategy meeting / discussion should also:

- Ensure that arrangements are made to protect the child/ren involved and any other child/ren affected, including taking emergency action where needed;
- Consider what support should be provided to all children who may be affected;
- Consider what support should be provided to the member of staff and others who may be affected and how they will be kept up to date with the progress of the investigation;
- Ensure that investigations are sufficiently independent;
- Make recommendations where appropriate regarding suspension, or alternatives to suspension;
- Identify a lead contact manager within each agency;
- Agree protocols for reviewing investigations and monitoring progress by the LADO, having regard to the target timescales;



- Consider issues for the attention of senior management (e.g. media interest, resource implications);
- Consider reports for consideration of barring;
- Consider risk assessments to inform the employer's safeguarding arrangements;
- Agree dates for future strategy meetings / discussions.

A final strategy meeting / discussion should be held to ensure that all tasks have been completed, including any referrals to the DBS if appropriate, and, where appropriate, agree an action plan for future practice based on lessons learnt.

The strategy meeting / discussion should take in to account the following definitions when determining the outcome of allegation investigations:

1. **Substantiated**: there is sufficient identifiable evidence to prove the allegation;
2. **False**: there is sufficient evidence to disprove the allegation;
3. **Malicious**: there is sufficient evidence to disprove the allegation and there has been a deliberate act to deceive;
4. **Unsubstantiated**: this is not the same as a false allegation. It means that there is insufficient evidence to either prove or disprove the allegation; the term therefore does not imply guilt or innocence.

### **Allegations against staff in their personal lives**

If an allegation or concern arises about a member of staff, outside of their work with children, and this may present a risk of harm to child/ren for whom the member of staff is responsible, the general principles outlined in these procedures will still apply.

The strategy meeting / discussion should decide whether the concern justifies:

- Approaching the member of staff's employer for further information, in order to assess the level of risk of harm; and / or
- Inviting the employer to a further strategy meeting / discussion about dealing with the possible risk of harm.



If the member of staff lives in a different authority area to that which covers their workplace, liaison should take place between the relevant agencies in both areas and a joint strategy meeting / discussion convened.

In some cases, an allegation of abuse against someone closely associated with a member of staff (e.g. partner, member of the family or other household member) may present a risk of harm to child/ren for whom the member of staff is responsible. In these circumstances, a strategy meeting / discussion should be convened to consider:

- The ability and/or willingness of the member of staff to adequately protect the child/ren;
- Whether measures need to be put in place to ensure their protection;
- Whether the role of the member of staff is compromised.

## **5. Disciplinary Process**

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### **Disciplinary or suitability process and investigations**

The LADO and the designated senior manager should discuss whether disciplinary action is appropriate in all cases where:

- It is clear at the outset or decided by a strategy meeting / discussion that a police investigation or LA children's social care enquiry is not necessary; or
- The employer or LADO is informed by the police or the Crown Prosecution Service that a criminal investigation and any subsequent trial is complete, or that an investigation is to be closed without charge, or a prosecution discontinued.

If disciplinary action is taken it will follow the disciplinary procedure of the person's employer.

### **Sharing information for disciplinary purposes**

Wherever possible, police and children's social care should, during the course of their investigations and enquiries, obtain the consent of the person who is the subject of the investigation to provide the employer and/or regulatory body with





statements and evidence for disciplinary purposes. If consent is not given the employer should be notified quickly so that preparations can be made to obtain this information at the end of the criminal process.

If the police or CPS decide not to charge, or decide to administer a caution, or the person is acquitted, the police should pass all relevant information to the employer without delay.

If the person is convicted, the police should inform the employer and the LADO straight away so that appropriate action can be taken.

## **6. Record Keeping and Monitoring Progress**

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### **Record keeping**

Employers should keep a clear and comprehensive summary of the case record on a person's confidential personnel file and give a copy to the individual. The record should include details of how the allegation was followed up and resolved, the decisions reached and the action taken. It should be kept at least until the person reaches normal retirement age or for ten years if longer.

The purpose of the record is to enable accurate information to be given in response to any future request for a reference if the person has moved on. It will provide clarification where a future DBS request reveals non convicted information, and will help to prevent unnecessary reinvestigation if an allegation re-surfaces after a period of time. In this sense it may serve as a protector to the individual themselves, as well as in cases where substantiated allegations need to be known about to safeguard future children.

Details of allegations that are found to be malicious should be removed from personnel records. For Education services see **Keeping Children Safe in Education: Statutory Guidance for Schools and Colleges (September 2016)**.

### **Monitoring progress**

The LADO should monitor and record the progress of each case, either fortnightly or monthly depending on its complexity. This could be by way of review strategy meetings / discussions / initial evaluations or direct liaison with the police, Children's social care, or employer, as appropriate. Where the target timescales cannot be met, the LADO should record the reasons.



The LADO should keep comprehensive records in order to ensure that each case is being dealt with efficiently and that there are no undue delays. The records will also assist Birmingham Safeguarding Children Board to monitor and evaluate the effectiveness of the procedures for managing allegations and provide statistical information to the **Department for Education (DfE)** as required.

If a police investigation is to be conducted, the police should set a date for reviewing its progress and consulting the CPS about continuing or closing the investigation or charging the individual. Wherever possible, this should be no later than four weeks after the strategy meeting / discussion / initial evaluation. Dates for further reviews should also be agreed, either fortnightly or monthly depending on the complexity of the investigation.

## **7. Unsubstantiated and False Allegations**

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Where it is concluded that there is insufficient evidence to substantiate an allegation, the Chair of the strategy meeting / discussion or initial evaluation should prepare a separate report of the enquiry and forward this to the designated senior manager of the employer to enable them to consider what further action, if any, should be taken.

False allegations are rare and may be a strong indicator of abuse elsewhere which requires further exploration. If an allegation is demonstrably false, the employer, in consultation with the LADO, should refer the matter to Children's social care to determine whether the child is in need of services, or might have been abused by someone else.

If it is established that an allegation has been deliberately invented, the police should be asked to consider what action may be appropriate.

## **8. Substantiated Allegations and Referral to the DBS**

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### **Substantiated allegations**

The **Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS)** was established under the Protection of Freedoms Act 2012 and merges the functions previously carried out by the Criminal Records Bureau (CRB) and Independent Safeguarding Authority (ISA). The relevant legislation is set out in the **Protection of Freedoms Act 2012**.



If an allegation is substantiated and the person is dismissed or the employer ceases to use the person's service or the person resigns or otherwise ceases to provide his/her services, the LADO should discuss with the employer whether a referral should be made to the Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS).

If a referral is to be made; it should be submitted within one month of the allegation being substantiated.

### **Bodies with a legal duty to refer**

The following groups have a **legal duty to refer** information to the DBS:

- **Regulated Activity** suppliers (employers and volunteer managers);
- Personnel suppliers;
- Groups with a power to refer.

### **Bodies with the power to refer**

The following groups have a **power to refer** information to the DBS:

- Local authorities (safeguarding role);
- Health and Social care (HSC) trusts (NI);
- Education and Library Boards;
- Keepers of registers e.g. General Medical Council, Nursing and Midwifery Council;
- Supervisory authorities e.g. Care Quality Commission, Ofsted.

If the person being referred to the DBS is a teacher in England they should also be referred to the **National College for Teaching and Leadership**.

## **9. Learning Lessons**

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The employer and the LADO should review the circumstances of the case to determine whether there are any improvements to be made to the organisation's procedures or practice.



## 10. Procedures in Specific Organisations

It is recognised that many organisations will have their own procedures in place, some of which may need to take into account particular regulations and guidance (e.g. schools and registered child care providers). Where organisations do have specific procedures, they should be compatible with these procedures and additionally provide the contact details for:

- The designated senior manager to whom all allegations should be reported;
- The person to whom all allegations should be reported in the absence of the DSM or where that person is the subject of the allegation;
- The LADO team.

### Further Information

#### **Keeping Children Safe in Education: Statutory Guidance for Schools and Colleges (September 2018)**

This policy will be reviewed annually

Person(s) responsible: Deputy Head - Miss McClelland

Date of policy: September 2018

Review of policy: September 2019