

# **Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy**

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# Introduction

This policy should be read alongside the Move More Staff Handbook, including the Staff Code of Conduct which set out Move More Charity's protocols for staff working with young people both within schools, holiday camps and during all other activities, where ever they are based.

The policy was drawn up in accordance with Keeping Children Safe in Education Statutory Guidance 2014, the Department for Education guidance issued under section 157 Education Act 2002, the Handbook of the Gloucestershire Safeguarding Children Board (GSCB) and The Charities Commission for England and Wales Policy Paper: Safeguarding Children and Young people 2014.

The Policy will be reviewed annually.

This policy can be made available to parents upon request and is published on the Move More Charity's website.

This policy can be made available in larger print or other accessible format if required.

# **Safeguarding Statement**

Move More recognises its moral and statutory responsibility to safeguard and promote the welfare of all young people it works with. It endeavours to provide a safe and welcoming environment where children are respected and valued. Members of staff are alert to the signs of radicalisation, extremism, abuse and neglect and follow our procedures to ensure that children receive effective support, protection and justice.

The procedures contained in this policy apply to all staff and trustees.

# **Principles**

- Welfare of the young person is paramount and adults always act in the interests of the child.
- All children, regardless of age, gender, ability, culture, race, language, religion or sexual identity, have equal rights to protection.
- All staff have an equal responsibility to act on any suspicion or disclosure that may suggest a child is at risk of harm.
- Young people and staff involved in child protection issues will receive appropriate support.
- The principles and reporting procedures of this policy relating to Child Protection will also apply to 'Vulnerable Adults' within Move More's work with parents/carers, siblings, visitors etc.

#### **Aims**

The Policy aims to:

- ensure that there are effective procedures in place to identify and deal with any child protection issues which may arise including arrangements for handling allegations of abuse against members of staff, volunteers and the CEO.
- ensure that Move More develops and implements policies and procedures in accordance with this policy
- provide a safe and welcoming environment for all pupils, staff, visitors and parent/carers regardless of age, gender, ability, race, language, religion, culture, disability or SEN
- raise the awareness of all staff through effective communication and training
- set out the relevant responsibilities

# **Terminology**

**Safeguarding** and promoting the welfare of children refers to the process of protecting children from extremism, radicalisation, abuse or neglect, preventing the impairment of health or development, ensuring that children grow up in circumstances consistent with the provision of safe and effective care and undertaking that role so as to enable those children to have optimum life chances and to enter adulthood successfully.

**Child Protection** refers to the processes undertaken to protect children who have been identified as suffering, or being at risk of suffering significant harm.

**Staff** refers to all those working for or on behalf of the Move More Charity, full time or part time, in either a paid or voluntary capacity.

Child / young person refers to all young people who have not yet reached their 18th birthday.

**Parent** refers to birth parents and other adults who are in a parenting role, for example stepparents, foster carers and adoptive parents.

Adults at Risk or Vulnerable Adults are also protected against abuse by legislation. They are defined as those aged 18 or over who are, or may be, in need of community care services by reason of mental or other disability, age or illness or who are unable to care for themselves or unable to protect themselves against significant harm or exploitation. This may include adults with learning difficulties, mental health issues, physical impairments or drug or alcohol misuse.

# **Purpose of the Policy**

- I. Has in place clearly identified senior staff to co-ordinate safeguarding and child protection arrangements with specific roles and responsibilities.
- II. Practices safe recruitment in checking the suitability of staff and volunteers who work with young people. This includes carrying out the necessary checks on the suitability of people serving on the Trustee Board and ensures that other organisations (who provide staff to Move More or who will work with students on another site operate appropriate child protection checks and procedures).
- III. Develops/ implements robust procedures for identifying and reporting cases, or suspected cases of abuse
- IV. Supports young people who have been abused in accordance with their agreed child protection plan.
- V. Establishes a safe environment in which young people can participate, learn and develop.

#### 1. Roles and responsibilities

Move More will always have in place a nominated Trustee for Safeguarding and Child Protection, plus a senior member of staff to co-ordinate safeguarding and child protection arrangements, namely the Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL).

One of their responsibilities is early identification of young people at risk and the correct assessment of their level of need. This allows for appropriate support to be offered quickly and can help to avoid escalation of concerns.

#### The DSL:

- is appropriately trained
- acts as a source of support and expertise to Move More.
- keeps written records of all concerns, ensuring that such records are stored securely.
- refers cases of suspected abuse to children's social care or police as appropriate.
- develops effective links with relevant statutory and voluntary agencies
- ensures that all staff sign to indicate that they have read and understood the Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy
- ensures that the Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy is updated annually
- liaises with the nominated Trustee
- ensures there is a record of staff attendance at safeguarding training

The Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead is appropriately trained and, in the absence of the Designated Lead, carries out those functions necessary to ensure the ongoing safety and protection of young people. In the event of the long-term absence of the Designated Lead, the deputy will assume all of the functions above.

# The Trustees' Board ensures that Move More has:

- A DSL for child protection who is a member of the senior leadership team and who has undertaken training in inter-agency working, in addition to basic child protection training.
- Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy and procedures that are reviewed annually and made available to parents on request and on the website.
- Procedures for dealing with allegations of abuse made against members of staff including allegations made against the CEO.
- Safer recruitment procedures that include the requirement for appropriate checks.
- A training strategy that ensures all staff, including the CEO, receive safeguarding training, with refresher training at three yearly intervals. The DSL should receive refresher training at two yearly intervals.
- Arrangements to ensure that all temporary staff and volunteers are made aware of the Move More's arrangements for safeguarding.
- The Trustee's Board nominates a member (normally the Chair) to be responsible for liaising with the local authority and other agencies in the event of an allegation being made against the CEO.

#### The CEO:

- Ensures that the Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy and procedures are implemented and followed by all staff.
- Ensures that all staff feel able to raise concerns about poor or unsafe practice and that such concerns are handled sensitively and in accordance with the whistleblowing procedures

#### The Staff:

- All staff, will be informed of the Designated Safeguarding Lead's name and Move More's policy
  for the protection of children: during their first induction to Move More, through the
  staff/personnel handbook, through whole staff training or briefing meetings.
- All staff need to be alert to the signs of harm and abuse. They should report any concerns if not immediately, as soon as possible, to the Designated Lead or named deputy. If in any doubt staff should consult with the Designated Lead.
- All staff must follow the procedures laid down in Appendices 1 & 2.
- All relevant national and local procedures will be made available for staff reference

# 2. Safer Recruitment

Move More endeavours to ensure that we do our utmost to employ 'safe' staff by following the guidance in Safeguarding Children and Safer Recruitment in Education:

- all applicants will be vetted. Applicants' personal details set out on the application form will be verified, and qualifications checked.
- all the necessary safer recruitment checks (including DBS checks) are carried out on all appointees including staff, volunteers and those that serve on the board of trustees). Annual confirmation statement of no change in conviction status, to be included in staff probation and annual Performance Management process.

Safer recruitment means that all applicants will:

- complete an application form
- provide two referees, including at least one who can comment on the applicant's suitability to work with children

- provide evidence of identity and qualifications
- be checked through the DBS as appropriate to their role and be registered with the Independent Safeguarding Authority (from 2010 onwards)
- be interviewed.

All new members of staff will undergo an induction that includes familiarisation with the Move More's Safeguarding and Child Protection policy and identification of their child protection training needs. All staff sign to confirm they have received a copy of the Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy (Appendix 5)

#### 2.1 Extended school and off-site arrangements

Where extended school activities are provided by and managed by Move More, our own Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy and procedures will apply in conjunction with the host venue where appropriate i.e. school site. If other organisations provide services or activities on our behalf we will check that they have appropriate procedures in place, including safer recruitment procedures.

# 3. Identifying and Reporting Cases

# 3.1 Recognising abuse

To ensure that young people are protected from harm, we need to understand what types of behaviour constitute radicalisation, extremism, abuse and neglect.

Abuse and neglect are forms of maltreatment. Somebody may abuse or neglect a child by inflicting harm, for example by hitting them, or by failing to act to prevent harm, for example by leaving a small child home alone, or leaving knives or matches within reach of an unattended toddler.

There are four categories of abuse: physical abuse, emotional abuse, sexual abuse and neglect.

#### 3.2 Physical abuse

Physical abuse may involve hitting, shaking, throwing, poisoning, burning or scalding, drowning, suffocating or otherwise causing physical harm to a child. Physical harm may also be caused when a parent or carer fabricates the symptoms of, or deliberately induces illness in a child (this used to be called Munchausen's Syndrome by Proxy, but is now more usually referred to as fabricated or induced illness).

#### 3.3 Emotional abuse

Emotional abuse is the persistent emotional maltreatment of a child, such as to cause severe and persistent adverse effects on the child's emotional development. It may involve conveying to children that they are worthless or unloved, inadequate or valued only for meeting the needs of another person. It may feature age — or developmentally - inappropriate expectations being imposed on children. These may include interactions that are beyond the child's developmental capability, as well as overprotection and limitation of exploration and learning, or preventing the child participating in normal social interaction. It may involve seeing or hearing the ill-treatment of another. It may involve serious bullying, causing children frequently to feel frightened or in danger, or the exploitation or corruption of children. Some level of emotional abuse is involved in all types of maltreatment of a child, although it may occur alone.

# 3.4 Sexual abuse

Sexual abuse involves forcing or enticing a child or young person to take part in sexual activities, including prostitution, whether or not the child is aware of what is happening. The activities may involve physical contact, including penetrative or non-penetrative acts. They may include non-contact activities, such as involving children in looking at, or in the production of, pornographic material or watching sexual activities, or encouraging children to behave in sexually inappropriate ways.

# 3.5 Neglect

Neglect is the persistent failure to meet a child's basic physical and/or psychological needs, likely to result in the serious impairment of the child's health or development. Neglect may occur during pregnancy as a result of maternal substance misuse. Once a child is born, neglect may involve a parent or carer failing to provide adequate food and clothing or shelter, including exclusion from home or abandonment; failing to protect a child from physical and emotional harm or danger; failure to ensure adequate supervision, including the use of inadequate care-takers; or the failure to ensure access to appropriate medical care or treatment. It may also include neglect of, or unresponsiveness to, a child's basic emotional needs.

#### 3.6a. Bullying

While bullying between children is not a separate category of abuse and neglect, it is a very serious issue that can cause considerable anxiety and distress. At its most serious level, bullying is thought to result in up to 12 child suicides each year.

All incidences of bullying should be reported and will be managed either; through the specific schools procedures when delivery is taking place within a school setting or through the Move More procedure for out of school settings. If the bullying is particularly serious, or the anti-bullying procedures are deemed to be ineffective, the CEO and the DSL will consider implementing child protection procedures.

Definitions taken from Working Together to Safeguard Children (HM Government, 2006).

#### 3.6b Peer on Peer abuse

Children can abuse other children. Although we recognise the gendered nature of peer-on-peer abuse, all peer-on-peer abuse is unacceptable and will be taken seriously. Abuse is abuse and should never be tolerated or passed off as "banter", "just having a laugh" or "part of growing up". There are different forms peer-on-peer abuse can take, such as:

- Cyber bullying
- Sexual violence and sexual harassment including 'upskirting'.
- Physical abuse
- Sexting
- Initiation/hazing-type violence and rituals

Procedures to minimise the risk of peer-on-peer abuse are in place and these include risk assessments for problematic areas. Although cases will be dealt on a case by case basis allegations will be recorded using the usual Safeguarding procedures, investigated by the DSL (supported by other agencies where appropriate) and dealt with appropriately. Victims, perpetrators and any other child affected by peer-on-peer abuse will be supported.

'Upskirting' is a criminal offence. Upskirting is, "taking a picture under a person's clothing without them knowing, with the intention of viewing their genitals or buttocks to obtain sexual gratification, or cause the victim humiliation, distress or alarm" (DfE, 2019a)

Where there has been a report of sexual violence, the DSL (or a deputy) will make an immediate risk and needs assessment, considering:

- The victim, especially their protection and support
- The alleged perpetrator
- Any other children who may be afftected (and adult students and staff, if appropriate), especially any actions that are appropriate to protect them

#### 3.6c Safeguarding children who are vulnerable to extremism

The school seeks to protect children and young people against the message of violent extremism including, but not restricted to, those linked to Islamist ideology, or to Far Right/Neo Nazi/White Supremacist ideology and extremist Animal Rights movements.

Move More will therefore:

- Ensure that staff members are trained to recognise signs of possible abuse, neglect or threat of radicalisation and will know what to do if they suspect a child is suffering harm. All staff receive Prevent training with safeguarding discussed regularly in staff meetings or briefings.
- Establish and maintain an environment where children feel secure, are encouraged to talk, and are listened to.
- Ensure children know that there are adults whom they can approach if they are worried.
- Ensure there are clear systems in place for all staff to follow.

#### 3.6d The Prevent Duty

The duty to actively promote 'Fundamental British Values has been live from 1st July 2015. This was first set out by the government in the 'Prevent' Strategy in 2011.

The Counter Terrorism and Security Act 2015 has introduced the Prevent Duty for various bodies including all FE colleges, adult education providers and independent learning providers with SFA funding or with over 250 students enrolled.

The Prevent Duty has "due regard to the need to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism" Anti Terrorism and Security Act 2015: Schedule 3, Section 21.

# What is our responsibility?

- Assess the risks of people being drawn into terrorism, including support for extremist ideas that are part of terrorist ideology.
- All staff to actively promote British values.
- Raise awareness of the Prevent duty and British values to all staff and learners.
- Establish a reporting procedure for all concerns relating to people being drawn into terrorism.

#### What is Extremism?

Extremism is defined as vocal or active opposition to fundamental British values, including democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty and mutual respect and tolerance of different faiths and beliefs.

We also include in our definition of extremism calls for the death of members of our armed forces, whether in this country or overseas (HM Government Prevent Strategy, 2011).

#### What is radicalisation?

Radicalisation is defined as the process by which people come to support terrorism and extremism and, in some cases, to then participate in terrorist groups.

#### What are British Values?

British Values are defined as "democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty and mutual respect and tolerance for those with different faiths and beliefs"; institutions are expected to encourage students to respect other people with particular regard to the protected characteristics set out in the Equality Act 2010.

# **Vulnerability / risk indicators**

The following lists are not exhaustive and all or none may be present in individual cases of concern. Nor does it mean that vulnerable people / young people experiencing these factors are automatically at risk of exploitation for the purposes of extremism. The accepted view is that a 19 Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy complex relationship between the various aspects of an individual's identity determines their vulnerability to extremism.

The following factors may increase an individual's vulnerability:

• Identity crisis — Being distanced from cultural and or religious heritage and uncomfortable with their place in the society around them.

- Personal crisis Family tensions; sense of isolation; adolescence; low self esteem; disassociating from existing friendship group and becoming involved with a new and different group of friends; searching for answers to questions about identity, faith and belonging.
- Personal circumstances Migration; local community tensions; events affecting country or region of origin; alienation from UK values; having a sense of grievance that is triggered by personal experience of racism or discrimination or aspects of Government policy.
- Unmet aspirations Perceptions of injustice; feelings of failure; rejection of civic life.
- Criminality Experiences of imprisonment; poor resettlement / reintegration, previous involvement with criminal groups.

#### **Procedures for reporting concerns**

Any identified concerns as the result of observed behaviour or reports of conversations to suggest that the person supports terrorism and/or extremism, must be reported to the named Designated Safeguarding Lead immediately and no later than the end of the working day. (Same procedure as Safeguarding)

#### Key contact details

- Move More Designated Safeguarding Leads
- Home Office helpline. Open Monday to Friday from 9am to 6pm (excluding bank holidays). Email: counter.extremism@education.gsi.gov.uk Telephone 020 7340 7264
- Police: Telephone 101 (999 in emergency)
- Support, Training & Advice Gloucestershire PREVENT Partnership Board Coordinator Tel: 01452 888766, Email: jayne.putland@glosfire.gov.uk

#### **Serious Violence**

All staff should be aware of indicators, which may signal that children are at risk from, or are involved with serious violent crime. These may include increased absence, a change in friendships or relationships with older individuals or groups, a significant decline in performance, signs of self-harm or a significant change in wellbeing, or signs of assault or unexplained injuries. Unexplained gifts or new possessions could also indicate that children have been approached by, or are involved with, individuals associated with criminal networks or gangs.

Advice and guidance can be found in KCSE 2019.

## 3.6e Child Mental Health

See Appendix 6: Child Mental Health more detail.

Mental health is as important to a child's safety and wellbeing as their physical health. It can impact on all aspects of their life, including their educational attainment, relationships and physical wellbeing. Mental health can also change over time, to varying degrees of seriousness, and for different reasons.

Negative experiences such as abuse and neglect can adversely impact a child's mental health. Mental health issues can also sometimes lead to safeguarding and child protection issues, for example if a child's mental health begins to put them or other people at risk of harm.

#### Who is at risk?

Any child or young person can develop mental health issues. But research has shown there are some factors that are associated with children and young people's long-term mental health: abuse and neglect, additional needs and disabilities, children from Black, Asian and minority ethnic communities, life events, living in care, LGBTQ+ children and young people.

**Common warning signs** of mental health issues include: sudden mood and behaviour changes, self-harming, unexplained physical changes, such as weight loss or gain, sudden poor academic behaviour or performance, sleeping problems, changes in social habits, such as withdrawal or

avoidance of friends and family.

These signs suggest that a child may be struggling, but there could be a number of different explanations for them.

**Child Line indicators** on how a child is feeling at that particular point in time have been categorised as: Doing OK, Struggling, Unwell, In crisis.

These indicators can help inform the appropriate support and referral requirements.

# Taking appropriate action

Any staff with concerns over a child's mental health or their actions / behaviours as a result of their mental health, should follow Move More's Safeguarding Reporting procedures, as they would for any concern, disclosure or incident. If working in a school, they should also inform the school's DSL.

#### 3.7 Indicators of abuse – what you might see

Physical signs define some types of abuse, for example, bruising, bleeding or broken bones resulting from physical or sexual abuse, or injuries sustained while a child has been inadequately supervised. The identification of physical signs is complicated, as children may go to great lengths to hide injuries, often because they are ashamed or embarrassed, or their abuser has threatened further violence or trauma if they 'tell'. It is also quite difficult for anyone without medical training to categorise injuries into accidental or deliberate with any degree of certainty. For these reasons it is vital that staff are also aware of the range of behavioural indicators of abuse and report any concerns to the designated person.

It is staff responsibility to report concerns, but not to investigate or decide whether a child has been abused.

A child who is being abused or neglected may:

- have bruises, bleeding, burns, fractures or other injuries
- show signs of pain or discomfort
- keep arms and legs covered, even in warm weather
- be concerned about changing
- look unkempt and uncared for
- change their eating habits
- have difficulty in making or sustaining friendships
- appear fearful
- be reckless with regard to their own or other's safety
- self-harm
- show signs of not wanting to go home
- display a change in behaviour from quiet to aggressive, or happy-go-lucky to withdrawn
- challenge authority
- become uninterested in their activities
- be constantly tired or preoccupied
- be wary of physical contact
- be involved in, or particularly knowledgeable about drugs or alcohol
- display sexual knowledge or behaviour beyond that normally expected for their age.

Individual indicators will rarely, in isolation, provide conclusive evidence of abuse. They should be viewed as part of a jigsaw, and each small piece of information will help the DSL to decide how to proceed.

# 3.8 Impact of abuse

The impact of child abuse should not be underestimated. Many children do recover well and go on to lead healthy, happy and productive lives, although most adult survivors agree that the emotional scars remain, however well-buried. For some children, full recovery is beyond their reach, and the rest of their childhood and their adulthood may be characterised by anxiety or depression, self- harm, eating disorders, alcohol and substance misuse, unequal and destructive relationships and long-term medical or psychiatric difficulties.

# 3.9 Taking action

Key points to remember for taking action are:

- in an emergency, staff should take the action necessary to help the child, for example, call 999
- report concern to the DSL by the end of the day
- do not start an investigation
- share information on a need-to-know basis only do not discuss the issue with colleagues, friends or family
- complete a record of concern
- seek support if distressed.

# 3.10 If you suspect a young person is at risk of harm

There will be occasions when staff suspect that a student may be at risk, but without any 'real' evidence. In these circumstances, staff should try to give the young person the opportunity to talk. The signs noticed may be due to a variety of factors, for example, a parent has moved out, a pet has died, a grandparent is very ill. It is fine to ask the young person if they are OK or if they can be helped in any way.

Staff should discuss the concern with the Designated Safeguarding Lead at the earliest opportunity. If the student does begin to reveal that they are being harmed you should follow the stated protocol. If, following your conversation, you remain concerned, you should discuss your concerns with the Designated Safeguarding Lead at the earliest opportunity.

# 3.11 If a student discloses to staff

If a young person talks to staff about any risks to his / her safety or wellbeing, the adult must let the young person know as soon as possible that they must pass the information on at the earliest opportunity.

During the conversation with the young person, staff should:

- allow them to speak freely
- remain calm and not over-react the young people may stop talking if they feel they are causing upset
- do not be afraid of silences remember how hard this must be for the student.
- under no circumstances ask investigative questions such as how many times this has happened.
- at an appropriate time tell the young person that in order to help them you must pass the information on.
- avoid automatically offering any physical touch as comfort. It may be anything but comforting to a child who has been abused.
- tell the young person what will happen next. The student may agree to go with you to see the Designated Safeguarding Lead. Otherwise let them know that someone will come to see them before the end of the day.
- Report verbally to the Designated Safeguarding Lead.
- Seek support if distressed.

# 3.12 Notifying parents

Move More will normally seek to discuss any concerns about a student with their parents. This must be handled sensitively and the DSL will make contact with the parent in the event of a concern, suspicion or disclosure.

However, if Move More believes that notifying parents could increase the risk to the child or exacerbate the problem, then advice will first be sought from children's social care.

#### 3.13 Referral to children's social care

The DSL will make a referral to children's social care if it is believed that the young person is suffering or is at risk of suffering significant harm. The young person (subject to their understanding) and the parents will be told that a referral is being made, unless to do so would increase the risk to the student.

#### 3.14 Children with sexually harmful behaviour

Children may be harmed by other children or young people. Staff will be aware of the harm caused by bullying. However, there will be occasions when a student's behaviour warrants a response under child protection rather than anti-bullying procedures.

The management of children and young people with sexually harmful behaviour is complex and Move More will work with other relevant agencies to maintain the safety of the whole community.

Young people who display such behaviour may be victims of abuse themselves and the child protection procedures will be followed for both victim and perpetrator.

It is recognised that some children who have experienced abuse may in turn abuse others. This requires a considered, sensitive approach in order that the child can receive appropriate help and support.

# 3.15 Confidentiality and Sharing Information

All staff will understand that child protection issues warrant a high level of confidentiality, not only out of respect for the young person and staff involved but also to ensure that release into the public domain does not compromise evidence.

Staff should only discuss concerns with the Designated Lead, CEO or Safeguarding Trustee (depending on who is the subject of the concern). That person will then decide who else needs to have the information and they will disseminate it on a 'need-to-know' basis.

Child protection information will be stored and handled in line with Data Protection Act 1998 principles. Information is:

- processed for limited purposes
- adequate, relevant and not excessive
- accurate
- kept no longer than necessary
- processed in accordance with the data subject's rights
- secure.

Record of concern forms and other written information will be stored in a locked facility and any electronic information will be password protected and only made available to relevant individuals.

Every effort should be made to prevent unauthorised access and sensitive information should not be stored on laptop computers, which, by the nature of their portability, could be lost or stolen. If it is necessary to store child protection information on portable media, such as a CD or flash drive, these items should also be kept in locked storage. Child protection information will be stored separately from the student's school file and the school file will be 'tagged' to indicate that separate information is held.

Child protection records are normally exempt from the disclosure provisions of the Data Protection Act, which means that students and parents do not have an automatic right to see them. If any member of staff receives a request from a young person or parent to see child protection records, they should refer the request to the CEO. The Data Protection Act does not prevent Move More staff from sharing information with relevant agencies, where that information may help to protect a child.

# 3.16 Reporting directly to child protection agencies

Staff should follow the reporting procedures outlined in this policy.

However, they may also share information directly with children's social care, police or the NSPCC if:

• the situation is an emergency and the DSL, their deputy, the CEO and the Chair of

Trustees are all unavailable

• they are convinced that a direct report is the only way to ensure the student's safety.

#### **4.1 Complaints Procedure**

Our complaints procedure will be followed where a young person or parent raises a concern about poor practice towards a young person that initially does not reach the threshold for child protection action. Poor practice examples include unfairly singling out a student, using sarcasm or humiliation as a form of control, bullying or belittling a young person or discriminating against them in some way. Complaints are managed by senior staff, the CEO and Trustees. The Complaints Policy is available on the website.

#### 4.2 If you have concerns about a colleague

Staff who are concerned about the conduct of a colleague towards a young person are undoubtedly placed in a very difficult situation. They may worry that they have misunderstood the situation and they will wonder whether a report could jeopardise their colleague's career. All staff must remember that the welfare of the child is paramount. The Whistleblowing Policy enables staff to raise concerns or allegations in confidence and for a sensitive enquiry to take place. All concerns of poor practice or possible child abuse by colleagues should be reported to the CEO.

Complaints about the CEO should be reported to the Trustee Chair.

#### 4.3 Staff who are the subject of an allegation

When an allegation is made against a member of staff, set procedures must be followed. It is rare for a child to make an entirely false or malicious allegation, although misunderstandings and misinterpretations of events can and do happen. A child may also make an allegation against an innocent party because they are too afraid to name the real perpetrator. Even so, we must accept that some professionals do pose a serious risk to students and we must act on every allegation. Staff who are the subject of an allegation have the right to have their case dealt with fairly, quickly and consistently and to be kept informed of its progress. Suspension is not mandatory, nor is it automatic but, in some cases, staff may be suspended where this is deemed to be the best way to ensure that children are protected.

Allegations against staff should be reported to the CEO. Allegations against the CEO should be reported to the Trustees' Chair.

#### 4.4 Staff Training

It is important that all staff have training to enable them to recognise the possible signs of abuse and neglect and to know what to do if they have a concern. New staff and governors will receive training during their induction. All staff, including the CEO (unless the CEO is the DSL) and Trustees will receive training that is updated at least every three years and the DSL will receive training updated at least every two years, including training in inter - agency procedures.

#### **5. Good Practice Guidelines**

To meet and maintain our responsibilities towards young people we need to agree standards of good practice. Staff are expected to maintain the Code of Conduct and adhere to the following principles. Good practice includes:

- treating all young people with respect
- setting a good example by conducting ourselves appropriately
- involving young people in decisions that affect them

- encouraging positive and safe behaviour among students
- being a good listener
- being alert to changes in students' behaviour
- recognising that challenging behaviour may be an indicator of abuse
- reading and understanding the Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy and guidance documents on wider safeguarding issues, for example bullying, physical contact and information-sharing
- asking the young person's permission before doing anything for them of a physical nature, such as assisting with dressing, physical support during PE or administering first aid
- maintaining appropriate standards of conversation and interaction with and between students and avoiding the use of sexualised or derogatory language
- being aware that the personal and family circumstances and lifestyles of some students lead to an increased risk of abuse.

#### 5.1 Abuse of trust

All Move More staff are aware that they are in a position of trust and inappropriate behaviour towards students, whatever their age, is unacceptable. Staff are aware that their conduct towards students must be beyond reproach.

In addition, staff should understand that, under the Sexual Offences Act 2003, it is an offence for a person over the age of 18 to have a sexual relationship with a person under the age of 18, where that person is in a position of trust, even if the relationship is consensual. This means that any sexual activity between a member of the Move More staff and a young person under 18 may be a criminal offence, even if that student is over the age of consent.

## 6.2 Whistleblowing

Move More's Whistleblowing Policy (held within the Move More Staff Handbook), enables staff to raise concerns or allegations in confidence and for a sensitive enquiry to take place.

#### 6.3 Reasons for Allegations

The procedure below is followed when staff or volunteers have (or are alleged to have):

- Behaved in a way that has harmed a young person, or may have harmed a young person.
- Possibly committed a criminal offence against or related to a young person
- Behaved towards a young person in a way that indicates that he or she would pose a risk of harm if he or she worked regularly or closely with children.

All staff, Trustees and volunteers have a responsibility to familiarise themselves with this procedure so that they can understand what to do if they receive an allegation against a member of staff or have concerns about the behaviour of a member of staff.

#### 6.4 Confidentiality

Move More will make every reasonable effort to maintain confidentiality and guard against unwanted publicity whilst an allegation is being investigated or considered. Move More will liaise with the Local Authority Designated Officer (LADO), police and social care services as to managing confidentiality as appropriate.

# **6.5 Procedure**

Procedure for managing allegations against staff (including volunteers and the CEO)

An allegation made against a member of staff must be reported immediately to the CEO. Should the initial allegation first be made to any other member of staff then that member of staff must either request the person raising the allegation to report it to the CEO or if that is not possible, to pass details of the allegation to the CEO immediately.

Where the allegation is made against the CEO, the person must immediately inform the Chair, or in their absence the nominated Trustee for Child Protection, without first notifying the CEO.

If the allegations involve the Designated Safeguarding Lead or the Chair, the person must immediately inform the CEO without first informing the DSL or the Chair.

The LADO will be informed of all allegations which appear to meet the above criteria

The CEO, or Chair of Trustees, will discuss the matter with the LADO and where necessary, the LADO will obtain further details of the allegation and the circumstances in which the allegation was made. Move More will act in accordance with advice given by the LADO and will not investigate allegations or inform any individuals without the LADO's consent. Move More may take action in the event of allegations against staff in accordance with its disciplinary procedures. If the member of staff (including a volunteer or Trustee) is deemed unsuitable to work with children and Move More ceases to use their services, Move More will make a detailed and prompt report to the Disclosure and Barring Service within one month of the member of staff, volunteer or Trustee leaving the Academy.

#### 6.6 Suspension

Suspension will not be an automatic response to an allegation but will be considered where the circumstances warrant it, including:

- there is cause to suspect a child or other children at Move More is or are at risk of significant harm
- the allegation warrants investigation by the police
- the allegation is so serious that it might be grounds for dismissal
- it is necessary to progress the investigation.

If suspension is deemed appropriate, the reasons and justifications will be recorded by the Move More and the individual will be notified of the reasons usually within one working day.

#### 6.7 Duty of Care

Move More recognises that it has a duty of care towards its employees and will ensure support is in place for individuals facing an allegation. Individuals should be informed of concerns or allegations and given an explanation of the likely course of action as soon as possible, unless external agencies object to this. A representative will be appointed by Move More to keep the individual informed of progress of the case and to consider what other support is available and appropriate for the individual.

#### 6.8 Record keeping

Move More will keep a clear and comprehensive record of any allegation made, the action taken and decisions reached. Move More will provide the accused person with a copy of the record following consultation with the appropriate agencies and once agreement has been reached as to what information can be disclosed. The record will be kept confidentially on the personnel file.

#### 6.9 Malicious or unfounded allegations

The CEO will consider whether to take action in accordance with Move More's behaviour policy where an allegation by a student is shown to be malicious or deliberately invented. Allegations that are found to have been malicious will be removed from personnel records and any that are not substantiated, are unfounded or malicious will not be referred to in references.

## 6.10 Timescales

It is in everyone's interest for cases to be resolved as quickly as possible consistent with a fair and thorough investigation.

#### 15.2

The CEO will report to the Trustees annually on the working of the policy.

#### 15.3

The Trustees will undertake an annual review of Move More's Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy and procedures. In the event that any deficiencies or weaknesses are identified these will be remedies without delay.

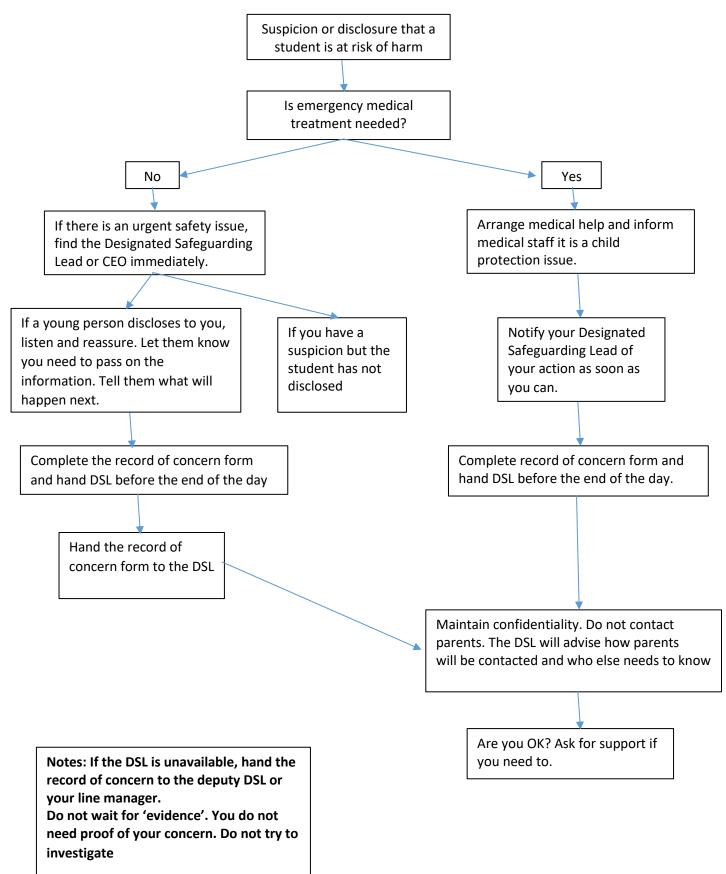
#### 16. Date of next review

Signed:

Chair

Date:\_

# Reporting a concern flowchart



## Procedure where abuse is suspected/disclosed:

Any member of staff who by virtue of a student's behaviour or appearance becomes suspicious of abuse, or is told that abuse has taken place, should immediately inform the DSL within the Move More setting.

If a young person begins to talk about an abusive incident, s/he should be allowed to speak, and be listened to carefully. Time should be taken to gain an understanding of what the young person is trying to say. No promise of confidentiality should be made.

The DSL should briefly and accurately record the concern and the young person's comments in writing and then follow the process below (from GSCB Procedures).

#### Professional has concerns

If a Professional has a concern about the well-being of a student then that professional should:



#### Consultation with supervisor

Share their concerns with their supervisor/line manager/designated lead or named professional to help clarify the nature of their concerns



#### Contact social workers for advice

In those cases where you have a concern but are unsure about how to proceed contact the:

Children's Help Desk Tel: 01452 426 565

And ask to speak to a social work practitioner.

**ENSURE YOU HAVE IMMEDIATE RELEVANT DETAILS TO HAND** 



#### Contact the children's helpdesk

In those cases where you are clear a social work assessment is required make a referral to the:

Children's Help Desk Tel: 01452 426 565

Within 24 hours (immediately if the concerns are about physical injury or sexual abuse). The CYPD social care section will then take responsibility for managing any subsequent enquiries. The referrer should confirm the details of the concern to CYPD, in writing, within 48 hours



#### Completion of written record

Complete a written record of the nature and circumstances surrounding the concern including any previous concerns held



# Resolving professional Difference (escalation policy)

Remember to use the 'resolution of professional difficulties' (escalation) procedures if you are left feeling that the response from social care has not addressed your concerns for the child. Advice about procedural issues including using the resolving professional differences procedures can be obtained through the

Safeguarding Children Service on 01452 58 3629

For out of hours social work advice please contact the Emergency Duty Team on 01452 614 194

Emergency Duty Team on 01452 614 192

# **Recording Form for Safeguarding Concerns**

Staff, volunteers are required to complete this form and pass it to Designated Safeguarding Lead if they have a safeguarding concern about a child in their care.

Your name:	Name of organisation:		
Your role::			
Contact information (you):			
Address:	Postcode:		
Telephone numbers:	Email address:		
Child's name:	Child's date of birth:		
Child's ethnic origin:	Does the child have a disability?:		
Please state	Please state		
Child's gender:			
<ul><li>☐ Male</li><li>☐ Female</li></ul>			
Parent's / carer's name(s):			
Contact information (parents/carers):			
Address:	Postcode:		
Telephone numbers:	Email address:		
Have parent's / carer's been notified of this	s incident?		
□ Yes □ No			
If YES please provide details of what was	said/action agreed:		
Are you reporting your own concerns or re	sponding to concerns raised by someone else:		
<ul><li>□ Responding to my own concerns</li><li>□ Responding to concerns raised by</li></ul>	someone else		
If responding to concerns raised by someobelow	one else: Please provide further information		
Name:			
Position/relationship to the child:			
Telephone numbers:	Email address:		

Safeguarding & Child Protection Policy

Date and times of incident:	
Details of the incident or concerns:	
Include other relevant information, such as description of any are recording this incident as fact, opinion or hearsay.	injuries and whether you
Child's account of the incident:	
Please provide any witness accounts of the incident:	
Please provide details of any witnesses to the incident:	
Name:	
Position or relationship to the child:	
Date of birth (if child):	
Address:	Postcode:
Telephone number:	Email address:

Safeguarding & Child Protection Policy

Please provide details of any person involved in this incident or alleged to have caused the incident / injury:		
Name:		
Position or relationship to the child:		
Date of birth (if child):		
Address: Postcode:		
Telephone number: Email address:		
Please provide details of action taken to date:		
Has the incident been reported to anyone else or any external agencies?		
□ Yes		
☐ No If YES please provide further details:		
Name of organisation / agency:		
Contact person:		
Telephone numbers:		
Email address:		
Agreed action or advice given:		
Your Signature: Print name:		
Date:		

РТО

# Safeguarding & Child Protection Policy Contact your organisation's Designated Safeguarding Officer in line with Move More reporting procedures.

Daniel Derrick	CEO	01242 711243	dan@move-more.org
		07932 712098	
Jeanette Quinn	Deputy CEO	01242 711243	jeanette@move-more.org
		07932 712099	
Andy Herbert	Head of	01242 711 326	andy@move-more.org
	Development	07966 977228	
Liam Wilkinson	Designated	01242 711235	lwilkinson@asachelt.org
	Trustee	07908 451598	
Steve Savory	Chair	01242 673814	ceo@gloucslearningalliance.org.uk
		07890 418405	

# Action Taken:

Action	Date

# **Contact Details**

Daniel Derrick	CEO/DSL	01242 711243	dan@move-more.org
		07932 712098	
Jeanette Quinn	Deputy CEO/	01242 711243	jeanette@move-more.org
	Deputy DSL	07932 712099	
Andy Herbert	Head of	01242 711 326	andy@move-more.org
	Development	07966 977228	
Liam Wilkinson	Designated	01242 711235	lwilkinson@asachelt.org
	Trustee	07908 451598	
Steve Savory	Chair	01242 673814	ceo@gloucslearningalliance.org.uk
		07890 418405	

# **Gloucestershire Local Authority Designated Officers (LADOs):**

Nigel Hatten: 01452 426994 nigel.hatten@gloucestershire.gov.uk

Jenny Kadodia): 01452 426320 jenny.kadodia@gloucestershire.gov.uk

(Allegations Management Co-Ordinator

Out of office hours: 01452 614194 or 101

# **Worcestershire Local Authority Designated Officers (LADOs):**

Jon Hancock: 01905 843311 James Borland: 01905 846383

Matt Davies Practice Manager: 01905 846211

LADO@worcschildrenfirst.org.uk

In an emergency always ring 999

# Code of conduct for staff and volunteers

Move More coaches and volunteers involved in sport and physical activity for children and young people have a great opportunity to be a positive role model and help build an individual's confidence.

Staff and volunteers are expected to:

- Be conscientious and loyal to the aims and objectives of Move More.
- Not expected to refrain from any outside activity (whether paid or unpaid) unless, in the reasonable opinion of the Trustees, such an activity would interfere with the efficient discharge of duties.
- Ensure the safety of all children by providing effective supervision, proper preplanning of coaching sessions, using safe methods at all times.
- Consider the wellbeing and safety of participants before the development of performance.
- Encourage and guide participants to accept responsibility for their own performance and behaviour.
- Treat all young people fairly and ensure they feel valued. Have no favourites.
- Encourage all children not to discriminate on the grounds of religious beliefs, race, gender, social classes or lack of ability.
- Not allow any rough or dangerous play, bullying, or the use of bad language or inappropriate behaviour.
- Appreciate the efforts of all young people and not over-train the young people.
- Never exert undue influence over performers to obtain personal benefit or reward.
- Be positive, approachable and offer praise to promote the objectives of the club at all times.
- Not let any allegations of abuse of any kind or poor practice to go unchallenged or unrecorded.
- Incidents and accidents to be recorded in the line with the club's procedures.
   Parents will be informed.
- Never use sanctions that humiliate or harm young people.
- Report accidents or incidents of alleged abuse or poor practice to the designated person.
- Administer minor first aid in the presence of others and where required refer more serious incidents to the club & qualified first aider.
- Not administering First Aid involving the removing of children's clothing unless absolutely necessary and in the presence of others.
- Have access to telephone for immediate contact to emergency services if required.
- Foster team work to ensure the safety of youth members in their care.
- Ensure the rights and responsibilities of youth members are enforced.
- Establish and address the additional needs of disabled participants or other vulnerable groups.
- Not abuse members physically, emotionally or sexually.
- Maintain confidentiality about sensitive information.
- Respect and listen to the opinions of young people.
- Take time to explain coaching techniques to ensure they are clearly understood.
- Develop an appropriate working relationship with participants, based on mutual trust and respect.
- Be a role model, displaying consistently high standard of behaviour and appearance (wearing Move More kit, disciplined/committed/time keeping), remember children learn by example.
- Refrain from smoking, consumption of alcohol or under the influence of drugs (including medication) that may have an adverse effect on the individual's ability to provide supervision. No alcohol to be in or on premises any time when children are present or about to be present.

- Never condone rule violations, rough play or the use of prohibited substances.
- Only using mobile phones / personal devices for emergencies or agreed Move More work, in front of children.
- Hold appropriate valid qualifications and insurance cover.
- Make the sport/activity fun.

# NSPCC briefing for schools: Protecting Children from Abuse of Position of Trust October 2017

- Staff should not give a child special attention or preferential treatment.
- Staff should not spend excessive amounts of time alone with children unless there are exceptional circumstances.
- Staff should not, spend time with a child in a private or isolated place.
- Staff should not transport children without another adult being present.
- Staff should not engage in a sexual relationship with a young person for whom they are responsible.
- Staff should not act as a particular child's "listening ear".
- Staff should not give small gifts, money, calls, emails, or social networking sites to communicate with a child.
- Staff should not being overly affectionate with a child.
- Staff should not be flirtatious or make suggestive remarks or comments of a sexual nature around a child.
- Staff should take note of other children making jokes or references about another member of staff and specific students.

# Staff and volunteers have the right to:

- Access on-going training and information on all aspects of leading/managing activities for youths, particularly on Safeguarding.
- Support in the reporting suspected abuse or poor practice.
- Access to professional support services.
- Fair and equitable treatment by the governing body/club.
- Be protected from abuse by children/youths, other adult members and parents.
- Not to be left vulnerable when working with children.

Any minor misdemeanours and general misbehaviour will be dealt with immediately and reported verbally to the designated person.

Serious or persistent breach of the code will result in disciplinary action and could lead to dismissal from Move More.

# **Child Mental Health**

#### **Key legislation**

In **England** and **Wales**, the <u>Mental Health Act (MHA) 1983</u> covers the assessment, treatment and rights of people with a mental health condition. It applies to all children and young people under the age of 18. The Act allows for people to be detained in hospital if they need treatment for a mental health condition. It gives children the right to appeal against detention.

The Mental Health Act 1983 was amended by the Mental Health Act 2007. This strengthened children's safeguards, for example adding a duty to ensure an age-appropriate environment for children and young people.

Mental health is as important to a child's safety and wellbeing as their physical health. It can impact on all aspects of their life, including their educational attainment, relationships and physical wellbeing. Mental health can also change over time, to varying degrees of seriousness, and for different reasons.

Negative experiences such as abuse and neglect can adversely impact a child's mental health.

Mental health issues can also sometimes lead to safeguarding and child protection issues, for example if a child's mental health begins to put them or other people at risk of harm.

#### Supporting children with mental health issues

It can be hard for adults to recognise when a child needs support with mental health issues. And it can be difficult for young people to speak out about the challenges they're facing. So it's crucial that anyone who works or volunteers with children is able to recognise the signs that a child may be struggling with their mental health. And that they know how to take appropriate action to support children and young people in getting the help they need.

#### Who is at risk?

Any child or young person can develop mental health issues. But research has shown there are some factors that are associated with children and young people's long-term mental health.

# **Abuse and neglect**

The traumatic impact of abuse and neglect increases the likelihood of children developing a range of mental health issues – both during childhood and in later life. These include anxiety, depression, eating disorders and post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD).

Specific types of abuse may be connected to certain mental health issues. Children who have experienced emotional abuse may be more likely to develop anxiety and depression compared with children who have experienced other types of abuse.

Abuse and neglect can also make children more vulnerable to developing more than one mental health condition at one time (known as composite mental health issues).

Providing effective mental health support for children who have experienced abuse and neglect can help them recover from its effects.

# **Additional needs and disabilities**

Children and young people with additional needs and disabilities may face a range of challenges including: reduced mobility, prejudice, discrimination and bullying. These challenges may lead to lower self-confidence, difficulty forming peer networks and social exclusion, putting them at higher risk of developing mental health issues.

#### Children from Black, Asian and minority ethnic communities

Children from black and minority ethnic groups may experience: racism, discrimination and prejudice – this can be direct, indirect or institutional, an increased stigma around mental health issues in the community.

#### Life events

Stressful or traumatic situations and experiences, such as bereavement or sudden changes in environment, can trigger mental health issues.

#### Living in care

Children in care are more likely than their peers to have a mental health difficulty. This can be due to isolation and loneliness. Children in care may also have experienced abuse or neglect, which increases the likelihood of developing mental health issues.

# LGBTQ+ children and young people

LGBTQ+ children and young people may experience: prejudice, discrimination and bullying, a fear of or an actual rejection from family and/or friends, feeling excluded or like an outsider.

There are ways you can identify if a child needs support with their mental health: by being attentive to a child or young person's mood and behaviour, you can recognise patterns that suggest they need support.

**Common warning signs** of mental health issues include:

- sudden mood and behaviour changes
- self-harming
- unexplained physical changes, such as weight loss or gain
- sudden poor academic behaviour or performance
- sleeping problems
- changes in social habits, such as withdrawal or avoidance of friends and family.

These signs suggest that a child may be struggling, but there could be a number of different explanations for them.

Don't attempt to diagnose mental health issues yourself or make assumptions about what's happening in a child's life.

Recognising that a child or young person may be struggling with their mental health is the first step in helping them. The next step is to respond appropriately.

The following principles will help you discuss mental health and wellbeing sensitively.

#### Use the right language

When talking with a child, use language that they understand. This will differ according to their age and stage of development. Make sure you understand the language the child is using and how they are using certain terms. For example, a child may use the word "anxiety" to describe a feeling of general nervousness or as a way to describe severe anxiety attacks.

By paying attention to the language children use to describe their feelings, you can reflect the terms they use in your own language. This will help them feel listened to.

Some children may have difficulty communicating, for example if they have additional needs or disabilities. Make sure you give these children the time and support they need to talk.

#### **Create an open environment**

It's important to create an open and safe environment where children and young people are

comfortable speaking about their mental health. Make sure children and young people know who they can talk to — and make this pool of people as wide as possible. For example, discussions about mental health and wellbeing can be integrated into the activities and put on an equal footing with physical health.

Some children with mental health problems will have experienced abuse. An open environment will help them talk about the challenges they are facing and may help them feel able to tell you what's been happening to them.

# **Promote mental health and wellbeing**

Anyone who works with children and young people has a responsibility to promote their mental health and emotional wellbeing. This can include: helping with online wellbeing, encouraging exercise, maintaining routines.

**Child Line indicators** on how a child is feeling at that particular point in time. You can use it to better understand a young person's mental health and wellbeing. It's important to remember that a person's mental health changes continuously – so you should refer to this continuum regularly.

#### \* Doing OK

Communicates effectively with others. Seeks help when needed. Can focus on specific issues. Has healthy relationships. Identifies and tries to solve problems. Uses healthy coping strategies.

# \* Struggling

Struggles communicating with others. Is unsure how to access help. Relationships are beginning to suffer. Begins to use unhealthy coping strategies. Has some sleep issues, low energy and fatigue. Is able to engage well in some areas.

# \* Unwell

Feels overwhelmed and isolated. Struggles to focus on specific issues. Struggles to access and/or engage with services. Has disturbed sleep. May have suicidal thoughts. Relies on unhealthy coping strategies. May already have a mental health diagnosis. Is ambivalent towards change.

# \* In crisis

Has made recent suicide attempts. Is distrustful of support services. Mental health symptoms are unmanageable. Has escalating self-harming behaviours. Distress may not reduce when talking. Not engaging at home or school. Is resistant to change.

#### Taking appropriate action

Any staff with concerns over a child's mental health or their actions / behaviours as a result of their mental health, should follow Move More's Safeguarding Reporting procedures, as they would for any concern, disclosure or incident. If working in a school, they should also inform the school's DSL.

# **Confirmation of receipt of Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy**

Name:	
Date of joining Move More	
Post	
Date of induction	
Name and designation of staff member responsible for induction:	
Protection Policy. I have been made aware of my owelfare.	nd read the Safeguarding and Child duty to safeguard and promote children's duty to safeguard and promote children's
Signature	
Name	
Date	