



Merrydale Infant school

Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead job description

Job title: Deputy Designated safeguarding lead (Deputy DSL)

Reporting to: Designated Safeguarding Lead; headteacher

Responsible for: All pupils and staff

Main purpose

The Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead (DDSL) will assist the Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) in all matters of safeguarding and child protection across the school. They may take part in strategy discussions and inter-agency meetings, and contribute to the assessment of children.

They will advise and support other members of staff on child welfare and child protection matters, and may liaise with relevant agencies such as the local authority and police.

Duties and responsibilities

Managing referrals

- Support DSL and refer cases of suspected abuse to the local authority children's social care.
- Support DSL in referring cases to the Channel programme where there is a radicalisation concern.
- Support DSL in referring cases to the Disclosure and Barring Service where a person is dismissed or left due to risk or harm to a child.
- Keep detailed, accurate and secure written records of concerns and referrals.

Working with staff and other agencies

- Support the DSL in ensuring staff can access and understand the school's child protection and safeguarding policy and procedures (especially new and part time staff).
- Inform the LADO of safeguarding issues, especially ongoing enquiries into whether a child is at risk of harm, and police investigations.

- Liaise with the case manager and the local authority's designated officer for child protection concerns in cases where a member of school staff is involved.
- Support the DSL in liaising with staff on matters of safety, safeguarding, and when deciding whether to make a referral.
- Act as a source of support, advice and expertise for staff.
- Understand the assessment process for providing early help and intervention.
- Develop a working knowledge of how local authorities conduct a child protection case conference and a child protection review conference.
- Support the DSL when required by attending and contributing to child protection case conferences effectively when required to do so.

Training

- Undergo training to develop and maintain the knowledge and skills required to carry out the role.
- Undergo Prevent training and be able to:
 - o Support the school or college in meeting the requirements of the Prevent duty
 - o Provide advice and support to staff on protecting children from the risk of radicalisation
- Undergo training on female genital mutilation (FGM) and be able to:
 - o Provide advice and support to staff on protecting and identifying children at risk of FGM
 - o Report known cases of FGM to the police, and help others to do so
- Refresh knowledge and skills at least annually so remain up to date with any developments relevant to the role.
- Obtain access to relevant resources.
- Undertake Refresher DSL training every 2 years as currently required.

Raise awareness

- Support the DSL in ensuring the school's child protection policies are known, understood and used appropriately.
- Work with the governing board to ensure the school child protection policy is reviewed annually (as a minimum) and the procedures and implementation are updated and reviewed regularly.
- Support the DSL in ensuring the safeguarding policy is available and easily accessible to everyone in the school community.
- Support the DSL in ensuring that parents have access to the safeguarding policy, and are aware that referrals about suspected abuse or neglect may be made, and the role of the school in this.
- Link with the local safeguarding children board (LSCB) to make sure staff are aware of training opportunities and the latest local policies on safeguarding.
- Be alert to the specific needs of children in need, those with special educational needs and young carers.
- Encourage a culture of listening to children among all staff, ensuring that children's feelings are heard where the school puts measures in place to protect them.

Other areas of responsibility

- Where children leave the school, support the secure transfer of child protection files to their new school as soon as possible.
- Undertake safer recruitment training and support the school to follow best practice.
- Alongside the DSL, monitor the single central record and ensure it complies with all relevant legislation.
- Assist the DSL in producing safeguarding reports to the governing board.
- Model best practice and uphold the principles of confidentiality and data protection at all times.

The Deputy DSL will be required to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and young people, and follow school policies and the staff code of conduct.

During term time, the Deputy DSL should be available during school hours for staff in the school to discuss any safeguarding concerns. Ideally this will be in person, but can also be via phone or video calling in exceptional circumstances.

Please note that this list of duties is illustrative of the general nature and level of responsibility of the role. It is not a comprehensive list of all tasks that the Deputy DSL will carry out. The postholder may be required to do other duties appropriate to the level of the role.

Person specification

Criteria	Qualities
Qualifications and training	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> GCSE (or equivalent) in English and maths<input type="checkbox"/> Degree<input type="checkbox"/> Relevant DSL training
Experience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> Successful leadership and management experience in a school or other relevant organisation<input type="checkbox"/> Experience of managing safeguarding in a school or other relevant organisation, including:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> Building relationships with children and their parents, particularly the most vulnerable<input type="checkbox"/> Working and communicating effectively with relevant agencies<input type="checkbox"/> Implementing and encouraging good safeguarding practice throughout a large team of people<input type="checkbox"/> Demonstrable evidence of developing and implementing strategies to help children and their families<input type="checkbox"/> Experience of handling large amounts of sensitive data and upholding the principles of confidentiality

<p>Skills and knowledge</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> □ Expert knowledge of legislation and guidance on safeguarding and working with young people, including knowledge of the responsibilities of schools and other agencies □ Ability to work with a range of people with the aim of ensuring the safety and welfare of children □ Awareness of local and national agencies that provide support for children and their families □ Excellent record keeping skills and attention to detail, in order to produce reports, take minutes of meetings, and document safeguarding concerns □ Good IT skills □ Effective communication and interpersonal skills □ Ability to communicate a vision and inspire others □ Ability to build effective working relationships with staff and other stakeholders
<p>Personal qualities</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> □ Commitment to ensuring the safety and welfare of children □ Uphold and promote the ethos and values of the school □ Act with integrity, honesty, loyalty and fairness to safeguard the assets, financial integrity and reputation of the school □ Ability to work under pressure and prioritise effectively □ Maintain confidentiality at all times □ Commitment to equality

Notes:

This job description may be amended at any time in consultation with the postholder.