**Auchenharvie Academy**



**WHAT IS CHILD PROTECTION?**

* “**Child Protection**” means protecting a child from child abuse or neglect
* Abuse or neglect need not have taken place; it is sufficient for a risk assessment to have identified a ***likelihood*** or ***risk*** of significant harm from abuse or neglect

*(National Guidance for Child Protection in Scotland 2014)*

* **Standard circular L3** should be followed for all CP and Welfare/Safeguarding concerns

**Guidelines for Child Protection/ Safeguarding**

**Session 2020/2021**

**Child Protection & Safeguarding Children & Young People**

**Is Everyone’s Responsibility**

**All Education & Youth Employment staff and those working in establishments and/or with children and young people** must be:

* Aware of arrangements for protecting children
* Alert to children’s needs
* Clear about their own role in ensuring the safety of all children

**Our responsibility goes beyond the narrow definition of Child Protection**

**We have a responsibility to:**

* Provide education to children and young people to help them to protect themselves
* Ensure all staff play a part in the prevention of child abuse and neglect via the curriculum by:
* Raising pupil awareness of risks
* Developing skills which will help them to keep themselves safe
* Helping them recognise behaviours in others which may place them at risk and
* Teaching them how to respond in order to keep themselves safe

**Always take into consideration that:**

* Children’s circumstances are unique
* Some forms of neglect and abuse cut across all sectors of society eg sexual abuse
* Statistically neglect can be linked to parents who are experiencing or have experienced particular challenges
* Not all children of parents who experience additional issues will be neglected or abused

The **Wellbeing Indicators** provide the broad framework for identifying a child’s needs.

They do so under eight headings, which should form the basis for planning around the child:

**S**afe **H**ealthy **A**chieving **N**urtured **A**ctive **R**espected **R**esponsible **I**ncluded

**Different Forms of Abuse or Neglect**

The following definitions show some of the different ways in which a child can be abused but are not exhaustive as individual circumstances of abuse will vary from child to child:

* **Physical Abuse** – being hit, kicked or punched
* **Sexual Abuse** – inappropriate sexual behaviour or language by an adult towards a child
* **Emotional Abuse** – constantly criticised, ignored, humiliated
* **Neglect** –persistent failure to meet a child’s basic or psychological needs: not being properly fed, clothed or cared for or poor hygiene

**Additional areas of concern which you should ensure you are aware of and know the signs to look for:**

* Exposure to Domestic Abuse
* On line exposure
* Children displaying sexually harmful or problematic behaviours
* Female Genital Mutilation
* Honour based or forced marriages
* Child Trafficking
* Child Sexual Exploitation
* Radicalisation

**All Staff Should Be Alert to:**

* Unexplained but significant changes to patterns of attendance, attainment or behaviours
* Something the child or young person says, discloses or chooses to confide. Children and young people often take time to seek out and test adults to whom they wish to disclose abuse/neglect
* Concern raised by other children
* Children and young people living with domestic abuse are at increased risk of significant harm both as a result of witnessing abuse and being abused themselves

**Staff with Concerns:**

Where there is concern about child abuse, neglect or exploitation the staff member should:

* Discuss his/her concerns with the Child Protection Co-ordinator **immediately.** The Child Protection Co-ordinator will decide on an appropriate course of action. The **CP Co-ordinator in the school is Miss Linda Davis, Depute Headteacher**
* Establish with the C.P. Co-ordinator when and how concerns should be recorded/shared including, if and when this information should be shared with parents/carers
* Ensure they are clear with regards to the establishment policy and procedures
* Formalise with the Child Protection Co-ordinator what further support the child is likely to need and how best this can be met

**Responding to Disclosure/Allegations:**

Whoever receives the information from the child or other person should:

* Listen carefully, let the child speak
* Not guarantee confidentiality, whilst explaining the reasons for this
* Not show disbelief or panic
* Take the allegation seriously and reassure the child / person
* Avoid expressing views on the matter
* Explain that she / he will have to share this information with the Child Protection Co-ordinator

**Do not** question the child – **this is the responsibility of agencies trained to carry out investigative interviews of children.** Questions inappropriately phrased could be thought to be suggestive and then lead to evidence being held as inadmissible in possible future criminal proceedings.

**NEVER**

**Carry out an investigation or gather any photographic evidence into the allegation – this is not your role.**

**Reporting Disclosure/CP Concerns**

All instances of disclosure/ CP concern should be reported to the school’s Child Protection

Co-ordinator **without delay**. The **CP Coordinator in the school is Miss Linda Davis, Depute Headteacher**.

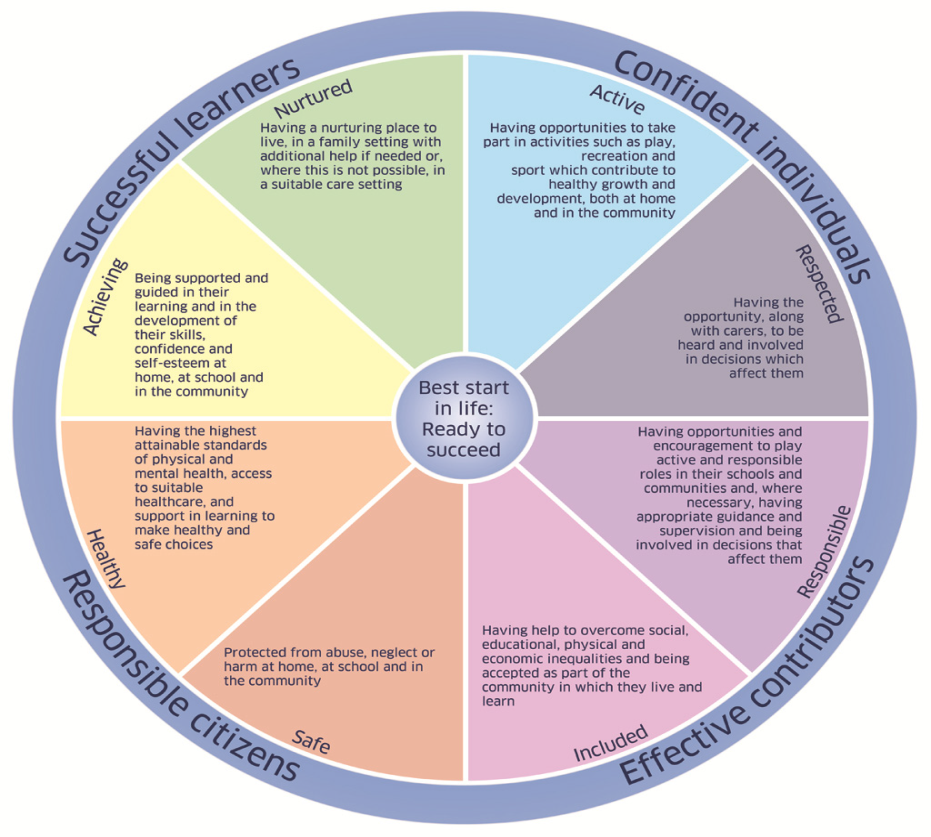
**Staff members should not discuss these concerns with colleagues.**

If the Child Protection Co-ordinator, Linda Davis or Head Teacher, Calum Johnston is not available, seek advice from any of the other Depute Head Teachers **(John Herd and Lety Riddell)**. If they are unavailable, the Head of Service (Education & Youth Employment) **Caroline Amos – 01294 324416 or 07398991597** or the Senior Manager (Inclusion) **Philip Gosnay 01294 324740 or 07798577355** or **Gail Nowek, Principal Psychologist 01294 324589** should be contacted **as a matter of urgency.**

If any member of staff receives information or hears an allegation of abuse or inappropriate conduct against another member of staff, the head of establishment must be informed immediately.

**If establishment based staff are unavailable please refer to the Child Protection Presentation Phone Tree slide for authority contact details or the Contact Numbers slide detailing Social Services and Police phone numbers. This presentation is available on the CP Safeguarding staff noticeboard which is located in the staffroom, main office and in Public – Staff Information – Child Protection**



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**CHILD PROTECTION CONTACT LIST**

If you have **any concerns** about a pupil please contact Linda Davis, Child Protection Co-ordinator. If unavailable, please see the **Headteacher**, any member of SLT or any member of the **Pastoral Care Team**.

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**Child Protection Coordinator**

**Miss Linda Davis (Warner House)**

**Ext No 291**

**Child Protection Coordinator**

**Miss J House**

**Ext 208**

**Head Teacher**

**Calum Johnston**

**Ext No. 207**

**Warner House**

**Claire Scott, PTPC**

**Ext No 215**

**Parkend House**

**John Herd, DHT**

**Ext No. 210**

**Helen Shaw PTPC**

**Ext No 216**

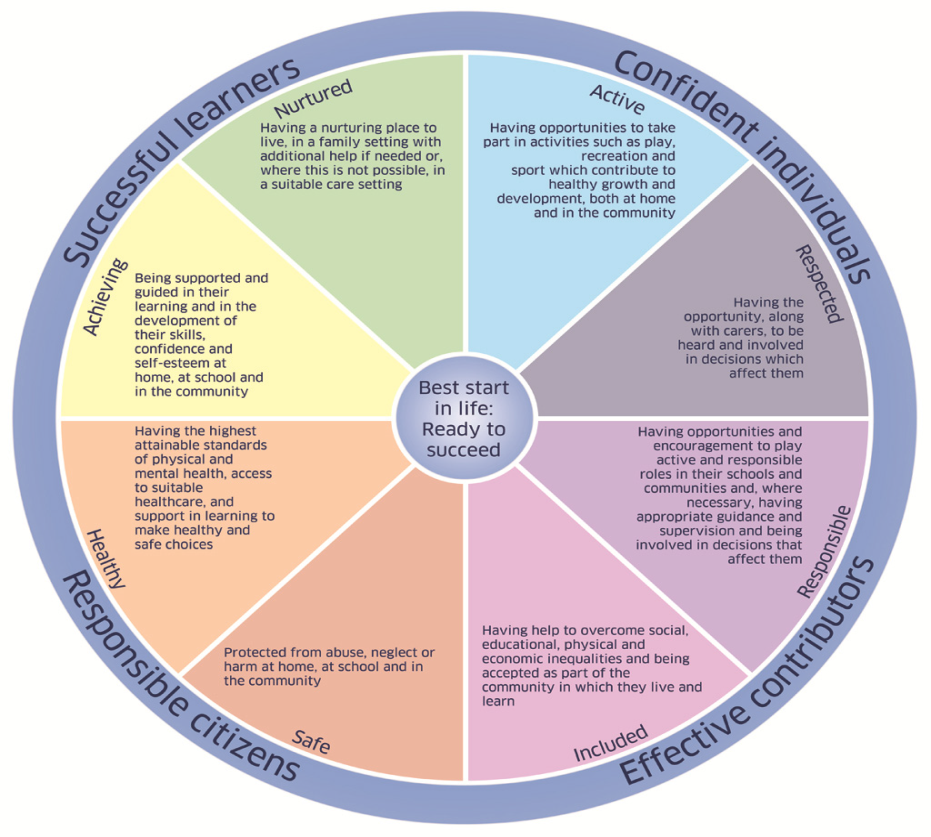
**Ashgrove House**

**Lety Riddell, DHT**

**Ext No 290**

**Amanda Lynch, Acting PT PC**

**Ext No 217**

**It is everyone’s responsibility to ensure all our children & young people are:**

* **SAFE**
* **HEALTHY**
* **ACTIVE**
* **NURTURED**
* **ACHIEVING**
* **RESPECTED**
* **RESPONSIBLE**
* **INCLUDED**

**Child Protection North Ayrshire** – [www.childprotectionnorthayrshire.info/cpc/](http://www.childprotectionnorthayrshire.info/cpc/)

North Ayrshire GIRFEC website - [www.girfecna.co.uk](http://www.girfecna.co.uk/)

**Child Protection Children and Young People –** [www.childprotectionnorthayrshire.info/cpc/children-and-young-people/](http://www.childprotectionnorthayrshire.info/cpc/children-and-young-people/)

[www.unicef.org/crc/](http://www.unicef.org/crc/) **Unicef – UN Rights of the child**

[www.cpckids.co.uk](http://www.cpckids.co.uk/)

[www.cpcteens.co.uk](http://www.cpcteens.co.uk/)

**Child Protection Professionals –**

* **North Ayrshire Child Protection Committee** [**www.childprotectionnorthayrshire.info**](http://www.childprotectionnorthayrshire.info/)
* Barnardos – [www.barnardos.org.uk](http://www.barnardos.org.uk/) (Child Sexual Exploitation material)
* CEOP – [www.ceop.police.uk/safety-centre/](http://www.ceop.police.uk/safety-centre/)
* Female Genital Mutilation – [www.forwarduk.org.uk/key-issues/fgm](http://www.forwarduk.org.uk/key-issues/fgm)
* North Ayrshire GIRFEC – [www.girfecna.co.uk](http://www.girfecna.co.uk/)
* National Child Protection Guidance – [www.gov.scot/Resource/0045/00450733.pdf](http://www.gov.scot/Resource/0045/00450733.pdf)
* National Risk Framework – [www.gov.scot/Resource/0040/00408604.pdf](http://www.gov.scot/Resource/0040/00408604.pdf)
* Pan Ayrshire GIRFEC – [www.girfec-ayrshire.co.uk/](http://www.girfec-ayrshire.co.uk/)
* Shakti Women’s Aid – [www.shaktiedinburgh.co.uk](http://www.shaktiedinburgh.co.uk/)
* UNICEF – UN Rights of the Child – [www.unicef.org/crc/](http://www.unicef.org/crc/)

Other documentation

* **Supporting Vulnerable Young Person’s Guidance 2018.**
* **North Ayrshire Anti Bullying policy 2018**
* **The National Action Plan on Internet Safety for Children and Young People** (April 2017)