

SECTION 3 – SAFEGUARDING (Version 1 Sept 2016)

What to do if you have concerns about the safety of a child?

1. Speak to your line or team manager
2. If you have serious concerns that the child/young person is at risk of significant harm make a referral to social care
3. If you wish to seek advice about your concerns and the action to take, contact the duty officer in social care or the Local authority Designated Officer (LADO) for Safeguarding: Telephone: 01733 864038, Email: LADO@peterborough.gov.uk or Fax: 0870 2384083
4. Ensure that you seek appropriate support/supervision for yourself
5. Consult the documents listed below for further advice.

What to do if a child whose case you are involved with undergoes a safeguarding investigation or if a child whose case you are involved in has a Child Protection plan?

In cases where a child/young person has a child protection plan, is undergoing a safeguarding investigation or other involvement from Social Care, please consult with the social worker to confirm who should receive copies of draft plans and documentation. This is to ensure only those for whom it is appropriate receive this documentation, for example it may not be appropriate to send information regarding the safeguarding investigation or social care concerns to someone who is being investigated.

According to the SEND Code of Practice any cross referencing of Plans should be discussed between relevant professionals – social worker; educational psychologist etc. The outcomes for a young person with a CP plan (or any other Plan for that matter) may be included in an EHC Plan by agreement with professionals and parents/carers.

Procedures, policies and important documents:

Full details of the **procedures** and **policies** we work together under for safeguarding are found on the Peterborough Safeguarding Children Board website: <http://www.peterboroughscb.org.uk/children-board/professionals>

A **model safeguarding policy** for schools is available from the local authority.

‘What to do if you’re worried a child is being abused: advice for practitioners’, Department for Education <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/what-to-do-if-youre-worried-a-child-is-being-abused--2> This document outlines clearly everything that needs to be done if a person has concerns over the safety of a child or young person. The guidance covers all children, including those with SEND – procedures are the same.

‘Keeping children safe in education’, Department for Education <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/keeping-children-safe-in-education--2> This document explains how allegations of abuse against an adult need to be referred to the designated officer for the local authority (see above).

‘Working together to safeguard children’, Department for Education, <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/working-together-to-safeguard-children--2> This is the statutory guidance (issued by law) on how we should work together with professionals and involved parties to protect our children and young people.

