



Durham Tees Valley School Policies
Egglescliffe School and Sixth Form
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DURHAM TEES VALLEY SCHOOL (DTVS)

Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy

Review: November 2026

The Aims and objectives of DTV School are to:

- To make it possible for students to complete their duty to worship Allah according to the guidelines set out by Allah and His Prophet in the Qur'an.
- Give students aged five to fifteen an Islamic education and understanding of British Values, and assist them in becoming a part of the Muslim and British community.
- To help the students develop into responsible citizens who will improve society and humanity by fostering in students the highest moral conduct, positive attitudes, and self-discipline in conformity with the teachings of the Quran and Sunnah.



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1. Safeguarding Policy

1.1 Policy Statement, Objectives & Key Principles

The definition of "safeguarding" is putting in place plans to take all appropriate precautions to guarantee that the risks to a child's wellbeing are as low as possible. By adhering to best practices, DTVS acknowledges that it has an obligation to protect the welfare of all children and adolescents while they are on the property. The DTV School works hard to follow high standards to fulfil its obligations under Islamic and British Law and protect and preserve the welfare of children and adolescents. Parental and guardian duty will always be the highest priority. The DTV School acknowledges that a child's or young person's welfare comes first. All children are entitled to equal protection from all forms of abuse, regardless of their age, aptitude, gender, race, or identity.

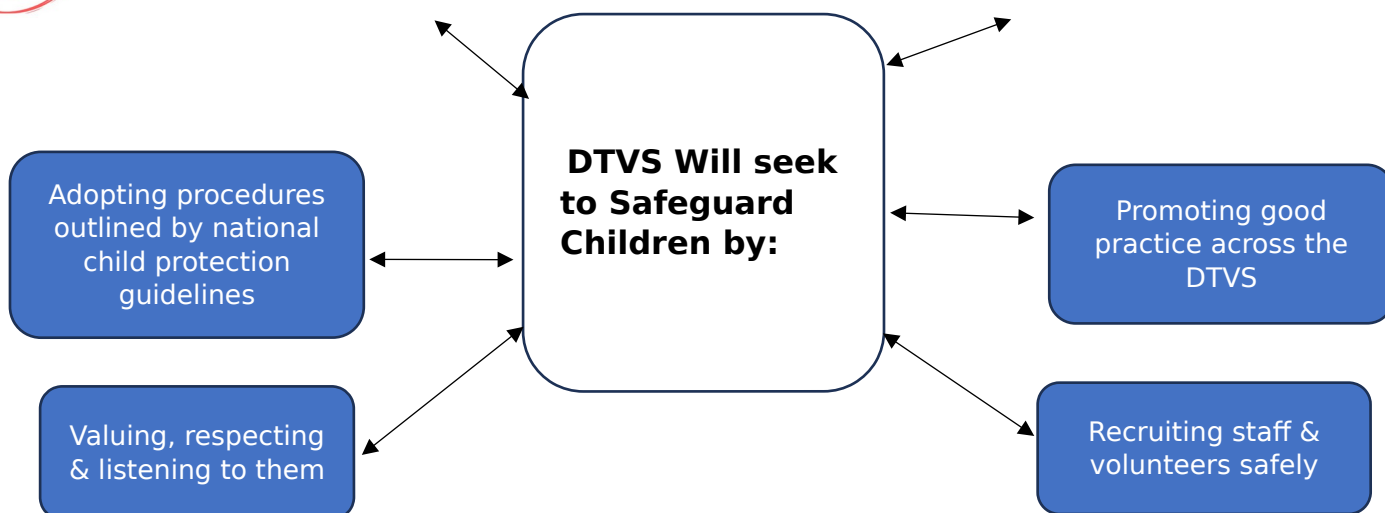
Policy Objectives

This policy outlines the framework that the DTVS abides by in protecting children and young people at risk from harm, abuse, or exploitation.

Providing effective management of staff through supervision, support & training

Staff DBS Checked

Sharing information about child protection & good practice with parents & staff



1.2 Statutory Framework:

DTVS will act within the framework set by: The Children Act 1989, Working Together to Safeguard Children 2018 and Keeping Children Safe in Education 2023.

Children and Vulnerable adults are defined as

- 'Child' or 'children' refers to a person or persons under the age of 18 years (defined in the Children Act 2004)
- A 'Vulnerable Adult' is a person aged 18 years or over who is or may need community care services because of mental health or other disability, age or illness and who is unable to take care of themselves against significant harm, abuse or exploitation.

DTVS will take any incident of alleged misconduct concerning children or vulnerable adults or abuse of these groups seriously and respond swiftly and appropriately in accordance with this policy. This may involve a referral to the Local Authority Designated Officer (LADO). Details are at the end of the document.

DTVS will process all personal data in accordance with the requirements of the current data protection laws (Data Protection Act 1998) and all subsequent amendments and additions. In line with the vetting and barring scheme, DTV School will ensure that all staff working in regulated activity, whether paid or voluntary, are checked



against the Disclosure and Barring Service. Regulated activity is defined as:

- Any activity, which involves contact with children and is of a specified nature (e.g. teaching, training, care, supervision, advice, treatment, or transport), or any activity allowing contact with children and is in a specified place (e.g. schools etc.).
- Where the activity is frequent, intensive, or overnight.
- Where the activity is wholly or mainly the role and not incidental.

In child settings, frequent means regular, repetitive activity once a week or more. Intensive means four or more days in one 30-day period (e.g. sports camps, trips).

1.3 Safeguarding Roles & Responsibilities:

DTV School is responsible for:

- Developing and updating its child protection and safeguarding policy, ensuring staff and parents are aware of it.
- Ensuring that a Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) and Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead (DDSL) are appointed within DTV School.
- Providing support and advice to all members of staff within DTV School regarding child protection concerns.
 - Ensuring all staff receive appropriate child protection and safeguarding training and the maintenance of training records.
- Cooperating with any requests for information from the local authority, such as training records and self-evaluation forms for safeguarding and child protection, in compliance with section 11 of the Children Act 2004.
- Maintaining confidential records of safeguarding concerns, any reported child abuse cases and action taken.

The DSL is specifically responsible for:



- Development and update of safeguarding policy.
- Liaising with the student welfare department in the development of its policy, specifically regarding anti-bullying procedures/measures.
- Assisting staff to refer suspected abuse and/or neglect to statutory partners post consultation with DTV School-safeguarding panel.

The safeguarding panel will work together to make informed decisions where abuse is suspected or disclosed.

Safeguarding Panel		
1	2	
3		
Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL)	Deputy Designated Lead (DDSL)	LADO Stockton-on-Tees

1.4 Safeguarding Definitions

Safeguarding children is everyone's responsibility. It is defined as:

- Protecting children from maltreatment
- Preventing impairment of a child's health or development
- Ensuring that children are growing up in circumstances consistent with providing safe and effective care.
- Taking action to enable all children to have the best life chances.

It is the expectation that everyone involved in working with a child will take this responsibility seriously and actively engage in ensuring that all children are safeguarded. In this instance, a child is defined as a person who has not yet reached their 18th birthday. Abuse is defined as "a form of maltreatment of a child". Someone may abuse or neglect a child by inflicting harm or by failing to act to prevent



harm. Children may be abused in a family or in an institutional or community setting by those known to them, or more rarely by others (e.g. via the Internet). An adult or adults or another child or children may also abuse them. This definition is from the most recent version (2015) of the Working Together to Safeguard Children Guidance, which provides the overarching scope of the phrase abuse.

1.5 Form of Child Abuse

Outlined below are the four major types of abuse as identified in national guidance:

Physical Abuse: A form of abuse which may involve hitting, shaking, throwing, poisoning, burning, scalding, drowning, suffocating or otherwise causing physical harm to a child. Physical harm may also be caused when a parent or guardian fabricates the symptoms of or deliberately induces illness in a child.

Emotional Abuse: The persistent emotional maltreatment of a child that causes severe and persistent adverse effects on the child's emotional development. It may involve conveying to a child that they are worthless or unloved, inadequate, or valued only insofar as they meet the needs of another person. It may include not giving the child opportunities to express their views, deliberately silencing them or 'making fun' of what they say or how they communicate. It may feature age- or developmentally inappropriate expectations being imposed on children. These may include interactions that are beyond a child's developmental capability, as well as overprotection and limitation of exploration and learning or preventing the child from participating in normal social interaction. It may involve seeing or hearing the ill-treatment of another. It could also involve serious bullying (including cyberbullying), causing children to frequently 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, though it may occur alone.

Neglect: Defined as the persistent failure to meet a child's basic physical or psychological needs, likely to result in the serious impairment of the child's health or development. Neglect may occur during pregnancy because of maternal substance abuse. Once a child is born, neglect may involve a parent or guardian failing to:

- Provide adequate food, clothing, and shelter, including exclusion from home or abandonment.
- Protect a child from physical and emotional harm or danger
- Ensure adequate supervision, including the use of adequate caregivers
- Ensure access to appropriate medicine or treatment.

It may also include the neglect of or unresponsiveness to a child's basic emotional needs.

Sexual Abuse

Involves forcing or enticing a child or young person to take part in sexual activities, not necessarily involving a high level of violence, whether or not the child is aware of what is happening. The activities may involve physical contact, including assault by penetration (for example, rape) or non-penetrative acts such as masturbation, kissing, rubbing, and touching outside of clothing. They may also include non-contact activities, such as involving children in looking at or in the production of sexual images, watching sexual activities, encouraging children to behave in sexually inappropriate ways, or grooming a child in preparation for abuse (including via the Internet).

1.6 PREVENT



Children are vulnerable to extremist ideology and radicalisation. Like protecting children from other forms of harm and abuse, protecting children from this risk should be a part of a school's or college's safeguarding approach.

Extremism is the vocal or active opposition to our fundamental values, including democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty and the mutual respect and tolerance of different faiths and beliefs. This also includes calling for the death of members of the armed forces.

- Radicalisation refers to the process by which a person comes to support terrorism and extremist ideologies associated with terrorist groups.
- Terrorism is an action that endangers or causes serious violence to a person/people; causes serious property damage; or seriously interferes or disrupts an electronic system. The use or threat must be designed to influence the government or to intimidate the public and is made to advance a political, religious or ideological cause.

1.7 SPIRITUAL, MORAL, SOCIAL AND CULTURAL EDUCATION (SMSC)

Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural education is crucial to the development of our students. It is achieved through a strong school ethos, supported by effective relationships throughout the school.

SMSC enables students to develop self-awareness and self-confidence and to contribute positively to society, preparing them for life beyond school.

Spiritual development will allow students to be reflective about their own beliefs, religious or otherwise and respect different faiths, feelings, and values from their own.



Moral development in education helps students discern right from wrong, learn legal boundaries, take responsibility for their actions, and express ethical views using sound reasoning.

Social development is demonstrated by a student's ability to work with diverse peers, engage in volunteer activities and social settings, and uphold fundamental British values like democracy, mutual tolerance, and respect for others.

Cultural development involves participating in various activities to appreciate and celebrate diversity among peers in school and society.

1.8 OPERATION ENCOMPASS

Operation Encompass is a partnership between the police and education sectors, designed to provide early intervention safeguarding support for children and young people who experience domestic violence and abuse. It is currently in place in every police force in England and Wales.

The 2021 Domestic Abuse Act recognised children as victims of domestic abuse. As part of Operation Encompass, the police will share information about any police-attended domestic abuse incident involving any of our children with our school before the start of the next school day.

This information is always kept in line with all other confidential safeguarding and child protection information. We understand that we must take all necessary precautions to ensure that the child/ren or non-abusing adult is not put at any further risk.

1.9 Ten Key Principles of Operation Encompass



1	Operation Encompass is a unique police and education early intervention safeguarding partnership enabling support for children and young people who have experienced domestic abuse.
2	Operation Encompass is every child's right. It should be embedded in every force, in every school, for every child.
3	Operation Encompass will ensure that ALL incidents of Domestic Abuse are shared with schools, not just those where an offence can be identified
4	Through Operation Encompass, a trained Key Adult in school (Designated Safeguarding Lead) will be notified before the start of the next school day that a child has experienced an incident of Domestic Abuse when the police have attended.
5	The Key Adult must be a trained Designated or Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead and should attend a mandatory Police and Education Operation Encompass briefing. The Key Adult is the person who will receive the information from the police.
6	The Key Adult should cascade the necessary awareness training to Governors and all staff so that there is knowledge of the scheme as well as the knowledge about Domestic Abuse and its impact on children.
7	The Key Adult must be notified before the start of the school day to plan for timely support. This timely knowledge enables all interactions, from when the child first arrives at the school gates, to be positive.
8	Operation Encompass is an integral part of safeguarding and child protection and, as such, should be cited in the school's Safeguarding and Child Protection policies.
9	Operation Encompass must lead to a secure record-keeping trail. This may be electronic or paper-based. All records must be managed at the Child Protection level with the highest level of security and confidentiality.
10	As part of the school's participation in Operation Encompass, the Key Adult must lead in informing all members of the school's community about the project. This includes, but is not limited to, placing information on the school's website, in the prospectus and sending the joint police/school letter to parents.



1.10 DTV School Safeguarding Arrangements & Good Practice

DTVS is reminded that it is a criminal offence for an adult to engage in sexual activity with a person under the age of 18, where the adult is in a position of trust, in relation to the under 18 years old of the Sexual Offences Act 2003. DTV School recommends all staff and volunteers take steps to ensure that they do not put themselves in a position where an allegation of abuse can be made against them.

Such steps include but are not limited to:

Maintaining a register of children, they are working with.

- Working in an open environment with children where they can be seen by others
 - Avoid unnecessary physical contact with children unless to prevent danger to the child or others.
 - First aid treatment should be carried out with more than one adult present unless delay could prove life-threatening.
 - Avoid unaccompanied journeys with the child.
 - Always use the official mode of transport for the event and ensure the appropriate parental consent has been received.
 - Avoid unaccompanied time with a child.
 - Not making suggestive remarks or being inappropriately familiar with children, as they could misinterpret this.
 - Always acting upon and recording allegations or reports of abuse made by children.
 - Always report potential concerns, allegations or reports of abuse made by children to the Safeguarding Lead.
 - Not inviting or allowing children to socialise with them or visit them outside of any necessary context for doing so.
 - Not giving the child their personal contact details such as address, home or mobile phone number and personal e-mail address.
 - Reporting any potential concerns to their head of department.



1.11 Site Security

DTV School likes to have visitors come and meet its staff and students, and to see its operations. However, visitors are requested to make prior arrangements with the Administrator so that they can be properly received and shown around. Any visitors to DTV School should report to the DTV School Reception area first.

1.12 Safer Recruitment

All staff entrusted with the care of children must be subject to DBS checks and complete Safeguarding Level 1 training. Staff recruitment procedures apply to volunteers who have regular contact with children in the course of his/her duties. To be fully inducted as a member of DTV School, the following steps must be completed for all posts, including those of teachers, teaching assistants, administration staff and management staff of DTV School:

1. Volunteer Form
2. Proof of eligibility to live and work in the United Kingdom
3. DBS Check on the GOV. UK site.
4. Safeguarding Children Training Level 1. (NSPCC)

All staff must undertake the DBS check before commencing their role within DTV School. The focus for DBS checks will be on those who work with children in regular unsupervised activities. Where previous convictions are identified, further discussion on whether this will impact the suitability of the individual in undertaking their role will be conducted by the DSL and a decision will be made by the DTV School safeguarding panel. All DBS checks are done through the GOV. UK site where they update checks every year.



1.13 Staff Training

To ensure all staff understand the nature of DTVS and the relevant procedures, a specific induction process will be included for all new starters. As part of this induction pack, safeguarding will be included to ensure all staff are aware of the implications.

1.14 Toilet Trips

Teachers or other staff may escort students of Class 1 to the toilet. No member of staff, teacher or otherwise, should enter the cubicle with the child. Children must clean themselves after using the toilet. It is the responsibility of parents or guardians to educate their children in this matter. In case of any accidents, and the child is not able to clean or change themselves, parents will be immediately informed to come to school to change them or to collect them. The incident form will be written and signed off by the witness and the parent. Students who require assistance in the toilet, due to special needs (physical or otherwise), must be accompanied by their parent or guardian. Parents or guardians of these children must be on the DTVS premises while their children are in attendance and are expected to accompany their children on trips when the occasion arises. Under no circumstances is any member of staff encouraged or permitted to assist children of any age in the bathroom. In case this does happen, 2 staff members are required to be present; inform the parent immediately and discuss the reason and the next steps to avoid the incident.

1.15 Trips, Visits & Sporting Events

DTV School do entertain children with trips or visits. Parents will be informed before the trips/ visits. A consent form will be filled out at the beginning of the admission and/or before the trip by every parent.



1.16 Medication

Medication required during School should be carried by the child, if this is normal practice. If not, the parent/guardian of the child should be present, either of whom can carry and administer the medication as necessary. Each parent/guardian must disclose details of any medication required at the time of admission or on the day before coming to DTV School. The DTVS Administration needs to inform staff involved with excursions and events of the need for medication for specific students and what to do in the event of a medical emergency.

1.17 Photography

The DTV School will take photos with parental consent and will be shared via authorised channels on occasion only, such as trips, Eid events, etc. We will try our best to blur the faces on most of the occasions.

1.18 E-Safety

Students are not permitted to use mobile phones or any electrical gadgets during DTV School hours. If seen with their phones/gadgets, they will be confiscated and will only be given back to the Parent/Guardian. Staff are requested to support this and not use their mobile phones in class unless there is a need to use them.

1.19 Parent-Teacher Communication Via WhatsApp or SMS:

An easy channel of communication between teachers, parents, and students, allowing teachers to share information, and parents to inform about their child's absence and send homework. Teachers will have limited access as necessary and are reminded to adhere to their confidentiality agreement with the DTVS, under which any



personal data/information is not shared. Personal concerns are to be shared either face-to-face or by telephone call. Under no circumstances are staff to create e-groups with students for their personal reasons, nor are staff permitted to contact students via their personal phone or e-mail address.

1.20 Restraining/Court Orders

It is the parental responsibility to inform the DTV School that individuals within a child's circle have court or restraining orders against them. The parent or guardian of the student in question is obliged to provide details of the individual, including his/her name and photograph for ease of identification. The DTV School will hold knowledge of such sensitive information securely and confidentiality will be maintained as much as possible. Access to this information will be restricted to the head, deputy head, and the class teachers of the associated student. All efforts will be made by the DTV School to keep the student(s) safe, and the DTV School personnel mentioned will be vigilant/keep a lookout. If the individual in question is seen on the DTV School premises, the parent will be informed straight away.

1.21 Procedures for the identification and reporting of concerns about a child at risk

DTV School staff must be alert to the possibility that the children they are working with may have been, or may be, at risk of being abused. All complaints and allegations of such abuse must be taken seriously and dealt with in accordance with the procedures set out below. Concerns may arise from:

- Something the student or parent has shared
- Possible signs exhibited by a student's behaviour, health, or appearance



- Something another member of staff has said or done

If a member of staff has suspicions about the welfare of a child, he or she should seek advice from the DSL, setting out the basis of suspicion as clearly as possible. This should be done immediately without awaiting confirmation of the concerns. Even when concerns may be considered minor, the DSL may have additional information that, together, may represent a serious concern.

1.22 Dealing with Disclosure

If a child discloses to a member of staff that the child or another child is being abused, has been abused, or is at risk of being abused, he or she should:

- Listen carefully and remain calm
- Ensure that he or she does not interview or probe the child.

However, if necessary, he or she may seek to clarify by asking open questions without putting words in the child's mouth.

To be sure that they have understood what the child is telling them.

- Reassure the child by telling them that they have done the right thing by opening up to them.
- Inform the child that the information must be passed on, but that only those who need to know will be told.
- Inform the child to whom the matter will be reported.
- Make a detailed note of the date, time, place, what the child said and did, and the questions asked.

This must be done as soon as the disclosure is over and handed to the safeguarding lead without delay. Members of staff should not investigate concerns or allegations themselves but should immediately report them to the Designated Safeguarding Lead or the Deputy Safeguarding Lead, or to the staff in the absence of a safeguarding lead. Members of staff are reminded not to discuss these concerns or allegations with others (staff, family, or friends)



and to maintain confidentiality. On receipt of a report of an allegation of child abuse (which may be contemporary or historical), the DSL will:

1. Record the concern or incident
2. Consult with the safeguarding panel
3. Make a referral to the Children's Advice and Support Service (CASS) or the Stockton-on-Tees Police where there is a significant risk of harm to a child. Where staff are seriously concerned about a child's safety and unable to contact the DTVS DSL or DSL, they should contact the Hartlepool and Stockton-on-Tees Children's Hub.

1.23 Responding to safeguarding allegations against staff members.

Any allegations made against members of the madrasah staff must be brought to the attention of the DSL, who will consult the safeguarding panel and refer to the Local Authority Designated Officer (LADO) where necessary. Where appropriate, the correct actions or sanctions will be executed, including suspension or dismissal, to safeguard at-risk individuals and the organisation during any investigations. Where the allegation is made against the DSL, deputy DSL or the Head, the matter should be escalated to the DTVS board, which will consult with them to take the necessary action. The DTVS Board will take steps to place the staff member in question on investigatory suspension via the internal disciplinary procedure. The matter will only be reported where necessary.

1.24 Making A Referral

Where necessary, the appropriate procedure for making a referral will be followed and may also require further advice from the Hartlepool and Stockton-on-Tees Children's Hub.



1.25 Confidentiality & Information Sharing

Privacy and confidentiality are core components of effective safeguarding. The legal principle is that the “welfare of the child is paramount”. Privacy and confidentiality will be respected where possible, but if doing this will leave the child at risk of harm, then the child’s safety comes first.

In such cases, only the relevant personnel will be informed. This practice respects the rights of the child, family, and staff to privacy. Where staff have a concern about the safety of a child at risk, it is legally acceptable and expected that this information will need to be shared. This must be done in a reasonable and correct manner, and in a fashion that respects the right to privacy for all individuals involved. Where possible and not contrary to the needs of the child, the families should be made aware of any escalation.

1.26 Whistleblowing

DTV School adopts the whistle policy of Hartlepool & Stockton on Tees Safeguarding Children Partnership (HSSCP).

1.27 Safeguarding Contacts and Websites:

1- Keeping Children Safe 2025:

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/1181955/Keeping_children_safe_in_education_2025.pdf

2- Working together to safeguard children - GOV.UK

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/working-together-to-secure-childrens-future>

3-PREVENT



<https://www.stockton.gov.uk/prevent>

4- Local Authority Designated Officer: Phil Curtis

<https://hsscp.co.uk/assets/pdf/>

[6849ff5f0881cf2584d79579bf887ffa.pdf](https://hsscp.co.uk/assets/pdf/6849ff5f0881cf2584d79579bf887ffa.pdf)

<https://www.teescpp.org.uk/media/1367/teeswide-lado-leaflet-april-2021.pdf>

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

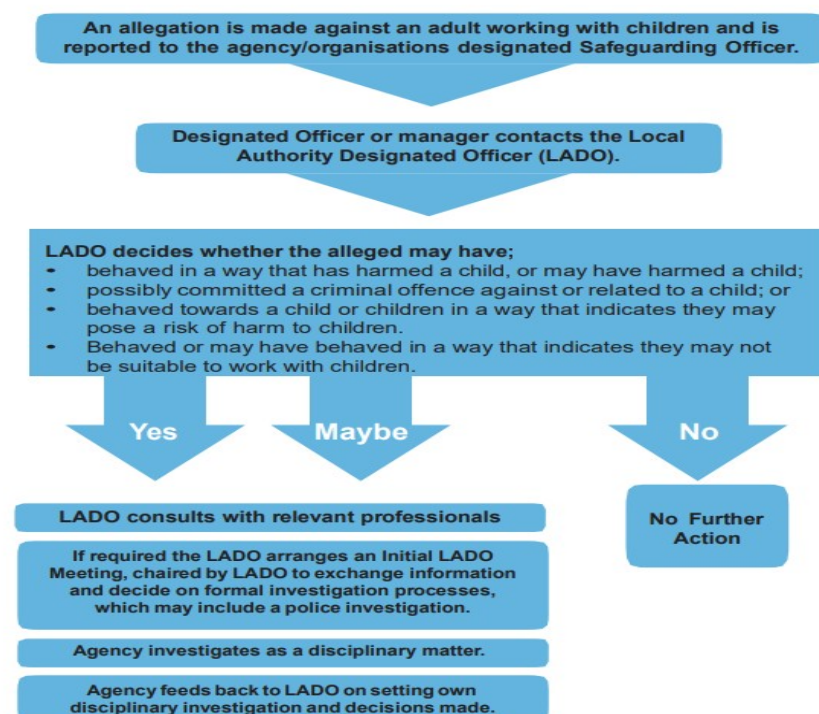
1. A Police investigation of a possible criminal offence
2. Enquiries and assessment by children's social care about whether a child is in need of protection or in need of services; and
3. Consideration by an employer of disciplinary action in respect of the individual

For further information please refer to the Tees Local Safeguarding Children Partnership procedures: <https://www.teescpp.org.uk/specific-issues-that-affect-children/allegations-and-concerns-against-staff-carers-or-volunteers/>

Hartlepool & Stockton LADO

The Children's HUB, Civic Centre, Victoria Road, Hartlepool, TS24 8AY,
01429 401844, LADO@hartlepool.gov.uk

LADO Procedure Flowchart





Worried About a Child, please call:

5- The Hartlepool and Stockton-on-Tees Children's Hub

on 01429 284284 / 01642 130080 or out of office hours call 01642 524552.

6- Hartlepool & Stockton Safeguarding Children Partnership

<https://hsscp.co.uk/professionals/page/69>

Hartlepool and Stockton-on-Tees Safeguarding Children Partnership.

Civic Centre, Level 4,
Victoria Road, Hartlepool,
TS24 8AY.

☎: (01429) 523825

✉: HSSCP@hartlepool.gov.uk

🕒: Monday - Thursday: 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM &
Friday 9:00 AM to 4:30 PM