

Congleton High School



ACHIEVING SUCCESS TOGETHER

Child Protection Policy 2009

Signed.....Chair of Student Welfare & Ethos Sub Committee

Signed.....Headteacher

Dated.....

Approved by the Premises Sub-Committee on 1st February 2007

Review Date: October 2009
Annual reviews of progress with Action Plan.

Full policy review: October 2010

CHILD PROTECTION POLICY

Rationale

Because of their day to day contact with individual children during school day, teachers and other staff are particularly well placed to observe outward signs of abuse, changes in behaviour or failure to develop.

Congleton High School fully recognises the contribution it can make to protect children and support young people in school and will work towards the goals set out in the 2004 Children's Act and the Rational for a Healthy School to ensure all students stay safe.

There are three main elements to our Child Protection Policy:

- Prevention
- Protection
- Support

Prevention

Congleton High School recognises that for young people, high self-esteem, confidence, supportive friends and clear lines of communication with a trusted adult helps prevention. Our school will therefore:

- Establish and maintain an ethos where young people feel secure and are encouraged to talk and are listened to
- Ensure that young people know that there are adults in school whom they can approach if they are worried or in difficulty
- Include in the curriculum activities and opportunities for PSHE which equip young people with the skills they need to stay safe for abuse.
- Include in the curriculum material which will help children develop realistic attitudes to the responsibilities of adult life, particularly with regard to child care and parenting skills.

Protection

Schools do not operate in isolation. Child Protection is the responsibility of all adults and especially those working with children. The development of appropriate procedures and the monitoring of good practice is the responsibility of the Child Protection Committee.

Congleton High School will follow the procedures set out in the Local Authority Guidelines.

Support

Congleton High School will ensure that the Designated Child Protection Teacher(s) will attend all relevant training for their role. In particular this school will ensure that they have attended the basic Child Protection course provided by the local **District**

Child Protection Committee. Other teachers with major Guidance roles in school will be encouraged to receive Child Protection training.

Confidentiality is an issue, which needs to be discussed and fully understood by all those working with young people particularly in the context of child protection. The only purpose of confidentiality is to benefit the child. Congleton High School will follow the procedures concerning confidentiality as laid down by the LA.

Well kept records are essential to good child protection practice. Congleton High School is clear about the need to record any concerns held about a young person(s) within our school, the status of such records and when these records should be passed to other agencies.

This school recognises that young people who are abused or witness violence may find it difficult to develop a sense of self worth and to view the world in a positive way. Congleton High School may be the only stable, secure and predictable element in the lives of young people at risk. This school will endeavour to use a consistent approach in line with the school behaviour management policy, which recognises and separates the cause of behaviour from that which the young person displays, which is vital to ensure that all young people are supported within the school setting.

Senior Designated Child Protection Teacher: Mrs G Taylor (SLT Care, Guidance and Support)

Deputy Child Protection Teacher: Mrs Bennet (SENCO)

Nominated Governor: Mr R Hinkley (Chair of Governors)

Conclusion

This policy should strengthen Congleton High School's role as an advocate and protector of those who face special difficulties and will seek to set standards of good practice to ensure safe working practices between adults and young people.

G Taylor
July 2009