

# Ofsted and Safeguarding

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# Section 5 inspection Framework

Ofsted should revise the inspection and improvement regime for schools giving greater prominence to how well schools are fulfilling their responsibilities for child protection

The Protection of Children in England: A Progress Report. (Lord Laming 2009 recommendation 10)

# Sir Roger Singleton review

..when Inspectors are conducting any inspection that includes scrutiny of safeguarding arrangements...for them to be able to check out the *real* safeguarding practice of the school, in addition to it's paper policies, they need to have sufficient time to engage in discussion with pupils staff and school leadership

# Inspectors will evaluate the impact of the schools safeguarding arrangements including

- Outcomes for children
- How well safeguarding is prioritised
- Whether child welfare concerns are identified and responded to appropriately
- The extent to which the school works with other agencies

# Safeguarding outcomes for children and young people are

- Children and young people are safe: the effectiveness of services in taking reasonable steps to ensure that children and young people are safe
- Children and young people feel safe: the effectiveness of services in taking reasonable steps to ensure that children and young people feel safe

## Ofsted

'Safeguarding' is a limiting judgement for schools and across all inspection remits, and a 'graded scale' for safeguarding has been in place since September 2009

# Recent Problems identified in inspected schools

- Inadequate Governor Oversight
- Poor Recording Systems (*SCR's 15/50*)
- Poor Recording Practice - Chronologies, incomplete records, lack of meetings
- Lack of CP training & evidence
- Incomplete / Inadequate Single Central Record
- Poor inter-links between children's information (behaviour - attendance - CP)
- Inadequate checks on external users of facilities

# Key Documents

- **Safeguarding Children & Safer recruitment in Education (*DCSF 2007*) – *Statutory Guidance***
- **Briefing for Section 5 Inspectors on Safeguarding Children (*Updated Jan 2010*)**
- **KCC Self-review Tool**
- **Guidelines for Safeguarding Record Keeping in Schools (*CFE 2008*)**
- **AMA Guidance for Safer Working Practice for Adults who Work with Children & Young People (*2007*)**
- **KSCB Safe Recruitment & Employment – Practice Guidance on Minimum Standards (*2007*)**

**Top Ten Tips [Linked to  
the 10 Judgements  
Guiding S5 Inspections]**

**IJ 1** *Clear policies, strategies & procedures to ensure the safeguarding & welfare of pupils, including those relating to behaviour, bullying, health & safety, harassment & discrimination & meets all required duties*

- **Ensure Policies Interlink - Safeguarding / CP; Behaviour Management; Allegation Management; H&S; Bullying; Discrimination; Whistle-blowing; Safe Working Practice**
- **Available to All Staff and Parents**
- **Governor Oversight**
- **Annual review**
- **What to Do If You Are Worried a Child is Being Abused & KSCB Handbook**

***IJ 2*** Clear management responsibilities in relation to child protection including relevant designated staff

- **DCPC & Deputy** - *Clearly Identified; Known to LA; Communication Lines; Named in Policy & Staff info*
- **Management of Allegations** - *Legal requirement to report to LADO; If in doubt about status - consult CSU.*
- **ISA Referral** - *Refer MOS where dismissed / resigned during investigation for alleged harm / risk of harm (Legal Oct 2009)*

***IJ 3 Monitor & evaluate the effectiveness of policies & Practices***

- **Governor Oversight - Termly Discussion; Annual report on Safeguarding Systems & Activity; Annual Policy Review**
- **Self Review / Self Evaluation - KCC Self Review Tool**
- **Governing Body Responsibility to ensure safe recruitment checks in line with guidance - evidence**

***IJ 4 Ensure that adults working with pupils are appropriately recruited & vetted***

- **Single Central Record - SPREADSHEET** *See p47-49 Safer recruitment in Education for expectations / Also Self-review Tool*
- **Specified Checks** - *Identity; List99/ISA; CRB; Qualifications; Right to Work in UK; NI number; References; Employment history; Health; Retrospective CRB (Kent LA HR guidance)*
- **Supply Staff, Volunteer & Visitor Checks**
- **Nov 2010 - ISA registration mandatory**  
*[www.isa-gov.org.uk](http://www.isa-gov.org.uk)*
- **Safer Recruitment Accredited Training** - *(mandatory for recruitment panels now) record of who has done DCSF / NCSL (Kent - CSU & SPS)*

**IJ 5** *Ensure that adults receive up-to-date, high quality, appropriate training, guidance, support & supervision to undertake the effective safeguarding of pupils*

- **Training** - DCPC (2 yearly); ALL Staff (3 yearly); Certificated; Attendance Lists; Register of who & when trained
- **New Staff** - Link with other schools training if necessary
- **Volunteers & 'Peripheral' Staff** - Training; A4 briefing sheet for visitors
- **Induction** - Policies; Communication lines; Conduct expectation; Staff handbook; CP leaflet, CSU numbers
- **Safe Working Practice** - AMA Guidance; E-safety
- **CP Session** - Signs & Symptoms; Responsibility; Procedure; Safe School; Conduct; Allegations
- **CSU Training CD**

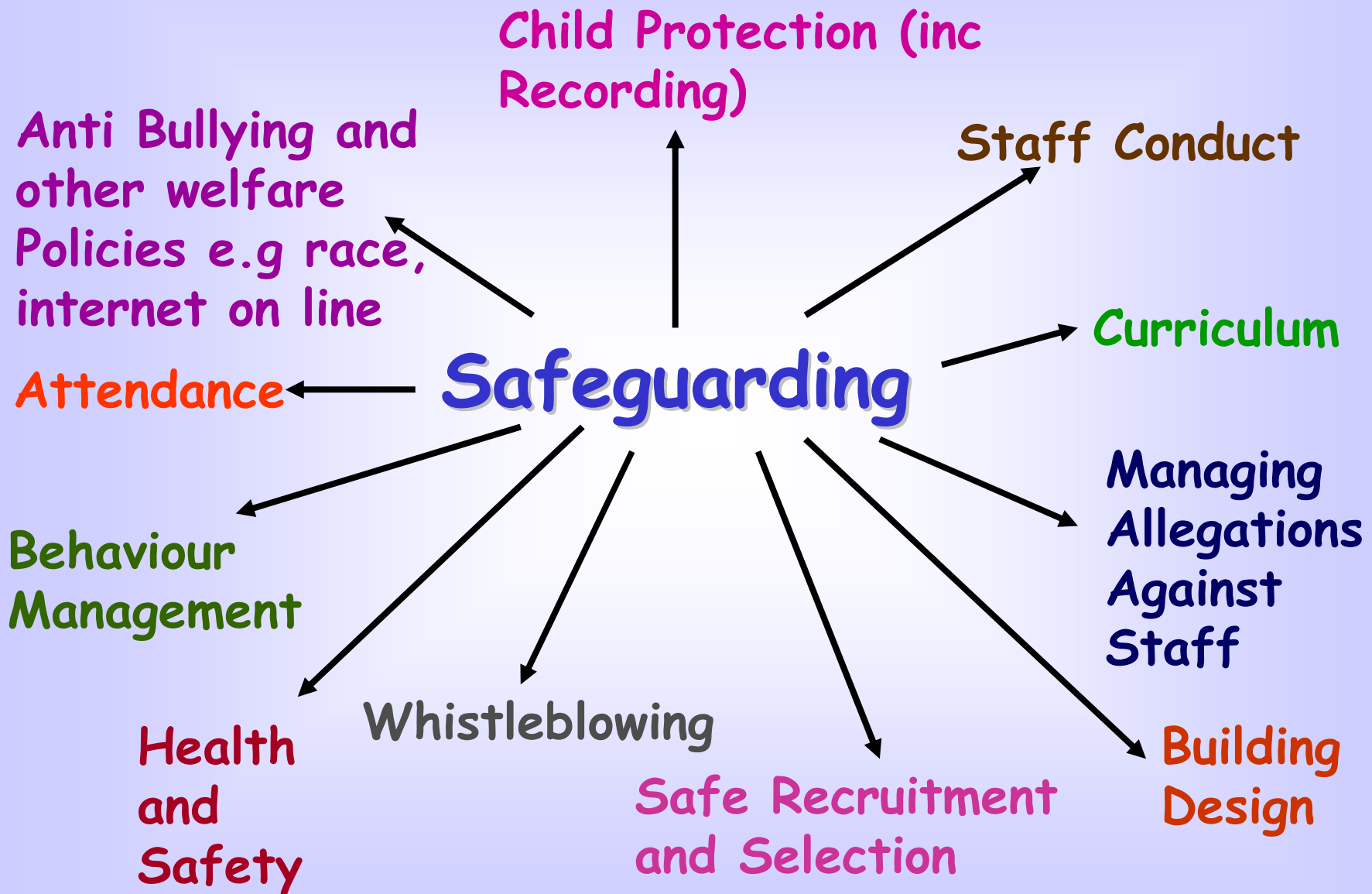
***IJ 6 Encourage & enable pupils to report any concerns or complaints including concerns about poor or abusive practices***

- **Empowerment** - *Complaint procedure for children; Listening posts / systems; Pupil councils; Peer support / mentoring; Open door; Childline / NSPCC information & posters; Record and address bullying & discrimination issues*
- **Complaints Process** - *pupils; parents; staff; others who wish to report concerns*
- **Clear guidance and expectations for pupils** regarding how they should expect to be treated & Vice Versa - *rules; conduct; implications of behaviour; etc*

**IJ 7** Take reasonable steps to ensure that pupils are safe on the school site, for example by monitoring volunteers or those using the premises during school time

- **Building & Grounds Security**
- **Extended Services; Community Initiatives**
  - Checks undertaken; Supervision; Visitors log; Visitor badges; Pupil contact?
- **Volunteers & Visitors** - Sign in; Badges; Supervision; ISA/List 99; CRB (where regular 3+/30 day); Risk assessment
- **Contractors** - PFI contract staff (caretakers; catering; etc) CRB via employer; Building contractors (no contact; H&S; supervision)
- **Safe School**

# What Constitutes a Safe School?



***IJ 8 Identify concerns about possible abuse &/or neglect &/or pupils who may have gone missing, and refer such concerns promptly to the relevant agencies***

- **Referrals** - *Evidence of process; consultation; auditable*
- **Monitoring absence** - *Records; consultation; involvement of EWS; CME guidance*
- **Notification of LA for children 'off roll'**
- **Liaison** - *Evidence of internal and external liaison; Telephone discussions; Consultation; Information-sharing for ChIN/CP*
- **Recording**.....

**IJ 9** Record information relevant to safeguarding concerns clearly and accurately & share it appropriately, both internally & with other agencies (Ofsted file review)

- **Recording Systems - Guidelines for Safeguarding Record Keeping in Schools (welfare concerns; incidents; injuries; ALL contacts; consultations; referrals; meeting attendance; letters; chronology)**
- **Accessible forms for ALL staff?**
- **Cross-referencing of files / cohesion of information**
- **Safe / Secure**
- **Information-sharing**
- **School / DCPC participation in plans and process - meetings attendance; reports; liaison**
- **Record Retention and Transfer**

***IJ 10*** *Help pupils to keep themselves safe, including encouraging pupils to adopt safe & responsible practices & deal sensibly with risk*

- **Curriculum** - *Evidence of schemes aimed at empowering children to better protect (PHSE; Kidscape; SEAL; 'Think You Know' re E-safety; etc)*
- **Bullying, etc** - *Evidence of incidents and management*
- **Do pupils feel safe?** - *pupil feedback; reporting processes; do pupils seek support?*