

LSE Widening Participation Team

Core WP Team Safeguarding Guidance and Procedures V3 October 2021

Contents

1. Introduction.....	1
2. Roles and responsibilities relating to safeguarding	2
3. Ensuring safe practice in the LSE WP Team	3
a) Staffing.....	3
c) Activity Guidance – In-person activities	6
d) Activity Guidance – Online activities.....	6
4. Responding to safeguarding concerns.....	8
a) Working with young people where there are existing safeguarding and child protection concerns	8
b) Dealing with safeguarding or child protection concerns relating to a participant on an LSE WP activity ..	8
c) Dealing with safeguarding allegations or concerns relating to an adult engaged in an LSE WP activity, or when someone makes an allegation or complaint about a staff member to you	12
d) Dealing with concerns relating to the ‘Prevent Duty’	13
e) Dealing with concerns relating to sexual violence, bullying and harassment	13
5. Record keeping and information sharing.....	13
6. Support for you in dealing with a safeguarding concern.....	13

1. Introduction

The London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE) is committed to ensuring the safety of everyone involved in School activities. The School has a Safeguarding Policy¹ that sets out its overall approach to safeguarding. Whilst that Safeguarding Policy sets out the School’s general responsibilities in ensuring the protection of vulnerable groups, it also notes that it will be necessary for appropriate local provisions to be made for certain activities. The work of the LSE Widening Participation (WP) is one such activity.

The LSE WP team delivers activities for over 2000 children and young people annually, on a wide range of programmes, including one-off events, mentoring and tutoring schemes, non-residential summer schools, and long-term programmes with students attending regularly over a number of years.

In the context of this policy, a child is any person under the age 18. The safety and wellbeing of all children on our LSE WP programmes is essential and all LSE staff and students working for us on LSE WP activities are responsible for safeguarding. Some programmes run by the LSE WP team involve work with young people in year 13 who may already be 18. Any safeguarding concerns relating to these individuals should still be reported to the LSE WP Designated Safeguarding Leads using the same process, although the action taken by the DSLs will depend on the age of the participant.

Purpose of this guidance

The purpose of this guidance is to provide detailed information on local safeguarding procedures and processes to core staff in the LSE Widening Participation (WP) team, in order to safeguard the welfare of children and young people engaging those activities.

Our safeguarding approach aims to achieve the following three objectives by being vigilant in the execution of our duties:

- a culture where children and young people are valued and their right to safety and respect is upheld
- actively managing risk to recognise the potential of any harmful circumstances for children or young people participating in LSE WP activity

¹ <https://info.lse.ac.uk/staff/services/Policies-and-procedures/Assets/Documents/safPol.pdf>

- working collaboratively with other LSE colleagues and external organisations to ensure that children and young people taking part in LSE WP activity are safeguarded and protected.

Scope of this guidance

The procedures and guidance outlined in this document are specifically for activities delivered by the LSE WP team, either individually or in partnership with academic departments. This guidance refers to all events and projects, delivered in person or virtually, involving young people which are organised and run by the LSE WP team.

This guidance does not cover any other widening participation or outreach work delivered by the LSE or LSESU. If a member of the WP core staff team is invited to attend or involved in promoting an activity run by another department within the School or LSESU involving children under 18, they should ensure that they are aware of the safeguarding procedures that should be followed in the case of any concerns and who the Designated Safeguarding Lead is for that event or project.

Everyone who works or volunteers for the WP team has a duty to safeguard and promote participants' welfare, as well as a duty to recognise, respond to, and share allegations, concerns or disclosures made about potential abuse and harm in a timely fashion. This includes core staff in the LSE WP team, other LSE staff who contribute to LSE WP activities as well as temporary workers or volunteers working on LSE WP team activities, such as student ambassadors, mentors, tutors and teachers. They will be supported to make decisions as to how to proceed in a way that is in the best interests and safety of any participant.

2. Roles and responsibilities relating to safeguarding

WP team core staff members (LSE WP coordinators/officers)

- Read and familiarise themselves with the LSE Safeguarding Policy, LSE Core WP Team Safeguarding Guidance and Procedures and LSE WP Safeguarding Code of Conduct and Activity Guidance.
- Follow the procedures in the LSE Safeguarding Policy, LSE Core WP Team Safeguarding Guidance and Procedures and LSE WP Safeguarding Code of Conduct and Activity Guidance at all times
- Attend all appropriate safeguarding training.
- Ensure that staff and volunteers working on LSE WP activities that they are directly responsible for have been briefed or trained as appropriate on the LSE Safeguarding Policy and have been sent and told to read and follow the LSE WP Safeguarding Code of Conduct and Activity Guidance. A copy of the email that is sent to them with this information MUST be saved for future reference.
- Report any safeguarding concerns to one of LSE WP DSLs immediately, making a full and accurate record of the incident/concern as soon as possible using the LSE WP Safeguarding Reporting Form
- Ask questions if they are unclear about any aspect of the LSE WP Safeguarding Policy or guidance documentation
- Refer any questions received about the LSE WP Safeguarding Policy or guidance documentation to one of the LSE WP DSLs immediately

LSE WP Designated Safeguarding Leads (LSE WP DSLs)

As above, plus the following:

- Review and update as necessary the LSE Core WP Team Safeguarding Guidance and Procedures document, the LSE WP Safeguarding Code of Conduct and Activity Guidance and LSE WP Safeguarding Reporting at least once a year.
- Ensure that appropriate contact numbers are readily available to all staff as needed e.g. for LSE Designated Safeguarding Officers, LSE HR team etc.
- Arrange and ensure completion of necessary safeguarding training for all staff working on LSE WP activities
- Ensure that full and accurate records are kept of all LSE WP safeguarding concerns, in line with record-keeping policies and procedures
- Ensure LSE WP DSL cover is always available and where not possible, ensure the team is aware of who to contact for safeguarding issues
- Respond to queries and concerns raised by LSE staff in relation to safeguarding in a prompt manner and at least within 24 hours
- Report any concerns regarding the LSE Safeguarding Policy to the LSE Lead Safeguarding Officer as soon as possible and make them aware of all safeguarding referrals made.

Staff or volunteers working on LSE WP team activities

- Read and familiarise themselves with the LSE Safeguarding Policy and LSE WP Safeguarding Code of Conduct and Activity Guidance, and formally agree to this with the LSE WP coordinator/ officer in advance of taking part in an LSE WP activity.

- Attend all appropriate safeguarding training.
- Follow the procedures in the LSE Safeguarding Policy and LSE WP Safeguarding Code of Conduct and Activity Guidance at all times.
- Report any safeguarding concerns to the LSE WP officer/coordinator or one of the LSE WP DSLs immediately
- Ask questions if they are unclear about any aspect of the LSE WP Safeguarding Policy or guidance documentation

3. Ensuring safe practice in the LSE WP Team

a) Staffing

Staff recruitment in relation to safeguarding

All roles recruited to by the LSE WP team, including temporary/casual staff, student ambassadors, tutors, mentors etc, should have a role description and person specification in place. LSE undertakes safeguarding checks via the Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) for certain roles, including some working with the LSE WP team, and complies with [the DBS Code of Practice](#). The process followed is outlined in with LSE's DBS policy and DBS process guidance note.

There are a range of checks available, as per the Safeguarding Vulnerable Groups Act 2006, and further details on which roles require which level of check can be found on the DBS website:

- 1) Basic
- 2) Standard
- 3) Enhanced
- 4) Enhanced with childrens'/adults' barred list(s)

The specific level of DBS check required for each and every role should be agreed in advance of any recruitment process to the role with the Head or Deputy Head of WP, in conjunction with HR where required. This should be determined by following the [eligibility guidance on the DBS website](#) and completing the eligibility checking tool. Once agreed, this should be clearly included in the role description when the role is advertised. A record of the eligibility tool outcome should be recorded on a central WP team spreadsheet.

Recruiting managers of salaried employees working in the LSE WP team must liaise with HR to ensure that the necessary DBS check is completed when the staff member is recruited, and then renewed every three years if they are still in post. Recruiting managers of other roles recruited to by the LSE WP team, including temporary/casual staff, student ambassadors, tutors, mentors etc, should liaise with the Head or Deputy Head of WP and the WP Officer responsible for temporary staffing to ensure that the necessary DBS checks are completed.

Disclosure reports for applicants that have recently resided overseas, (including current UK residents and British nationals) may not include information on convictions from outside the UK. As such, where an applicant has spent more than six months in the previous five years living abroad, the School will follow DBS [guidance](#) on obtaining criminal records information in a variety of foreign countries. The applicant will also be requested to obtain a certificate of good conduct from the country in which they were resident. Where an applicant has been resident in the UK for a minimum of two months, a Disclosure report will also be sought in addition to the overseas check.

Where any additional information is revealed because of a DBS or an overseas criminal record check, the Head or Deputy Head of WP will liaise with HR to discuss next steps. Any information disclosed that is relevant to the nature of the role and/or is likely to lead to the withdrawal or amendment of a job offer should be discussed with the candidate before a final decision is taken. This will be in line with the LSE policy on the [Recruitment of Ex-Offenders](#).

Staff induction in relation to safeguarding

Anyone responsible for the recruitment of staff or volunteers to support LSE WP team activities should ensure that all their staff are given a copy of the most up-to-date LSE safeguarding documentation when they are recruited. They should encourage staff to ask any questions or seek clarification at any time from one of the LSE WP DSLs. Anyone responsible for the recruitment of staff or volunteers to work on LSE WP activities should also ensure all new staff read and formally accept the terms of the LSE WP Safeguarding Code of Conduct and Activity Guidance, which clarifies expectations of all staff working with the WP team, in terms of their professional boundaries, conduct and behavior. It assists staff to raise concerns without fear of recrimination and reduces the risk of misplaced or malicious allegations being made against them.

For in person events, all staff and volunteers working on LSE WP activities should be provided with an ID card or name badge which clearly identifies them and their role. For online events, wherever possible, staff should be identified clearly on their profile (e.g. name/role for username, use of an LSE branded background etc).

Staff training in relation to safeguarding

Staff or volunteers working on LSE WP activities

All staff working on LSE WP activities should read the LSE WP Safeguarding Code of Conduct and Activity Guidance and receive an internal briefing on key safeguarding issues relevant to their role. Depending on the specific nature of their role, certain staff or volunteers may be required to complete additional training. The LSE WP coordinator/officer recruiting to each role should agree with the Head or Deputy Head of WP what level of safeguarding training is required in advance of recruitment, and for some roles, this may include refresher training.

LSE core WP team members (LSE WP coordinators/officers)

A full briefing on safeguarding policies and good practice is provided to all LSE WP team staff as part of their induction, and all staff must familiarise themselves with the LSE Safeguarding Policy and the LSE WP Team Safeguarding Guidance and Procedures. This provides guidance on acceptable and desirable conduct to protect both children and vulnerable adults who come onto LSE premises to study and to visit, and those working with them. LSE core WP team member must also complete the NSPCC's online Introduction to Child Protection online training module² as part of their induction and should receive refresher training on safeguarding at least every two years.

LSE WP Designated Safeguarding Leads (LSE WP DSLs)

In addition to the above, LSE WP Designated Safeguarding Leads should attend specific DSL training at least once every two years.

b) General Activity Guidance

Risk assessments

All LSE WP coordinators/officers must undertake a risk assessment for all activities they are directly responsible for. This must be in place, saved in an accessible location and signed off by their line manager and the Head or Deputy Head of WP before any activity begins, whether in person or online. The risk assessment should include information on the risks associated with safeguarding and the control measures in place for events involving under 18s, as well all other risks associated with the event or activity.

The lead staff member in the LSE WP team for each project/event should ensure that all staff who are working on an event or project are fully briefed on the risk assessment contents and understand their role/responsibilities as outlined in the document, including what to do in the event of an emergency. Additional risk assessments must also be completed for any activity which is part of an LSE WP project or event, but which is not directly organised by the LSE WP team, such as fieldtrips or activities delivered by third-party organisations or programme partners. These risk assessments must be collected in advance and shared with the Head or Deputy Head of WP for sign-off and a copy should always be easily available during the activity.

Participant behaviour and conduct

When events or projects are advertised or students are invited to participate, a clear statement must be made outlining the responsibilities of the School regarding overall participant supervision and safety.

The LSE WP coordinator / officer should set expectations of the standards of behaviour required from participants in advance, which may include asking participants and/or their parents or carers to sign a code of behaviour. This should be agreed with the relevant line manager, on a case-by-case basis for each LSE WP project or activity.

During an activity/event, staff should also ask participants to take reasonable steps to ensure their own safety and that of others, and to report any inappropriate behaviour they experience/witness or any concerns that they may have. Students and parents or carers should also be reminded of the duty of care that LSE WP team staff have for participants on our activities, and be informed that we would act if we felt that a child was being harmed/at risk of harm.

LSE WP coordinators/officers should address any incidences of participants breaching the code of behaviour in a timely manner. If this is a minor breach, the LSE WP coordinators/officers should explain to the participant why it is not acceptable and remind them of the code of behaviour they have agreed to (and if appropriate, ask them to apologise to someone they upset). If the problem continues, staff should seek support from their line manager and/or the Head or

² https://learning.nspcc.org.uk/training/introduction-safeguarding-child-protection?qclid=Cj0KCCQjw7ZL6BRCmARIsAH6XFDKqkg2ferOekvuB5eN3D6D83S5W66BBUK86jURV4hWRX2S8GhHJ2qEaAhjHEALw_wcB&qclsrc=aw.ds

Deputy Head of WP. Any serious incidences of disruptive, dangerous or unacceptable behaviour (for example bullying or harassment, using racist, sexist or homophobic language, or not following safety instructions) should be escalated to the Head or Deputy Head of WP to agree the appropriate course of action that should be taken.

Any breaches of the code of behaviour by a participant, and the action taken, should be recorded using the LSE WP Safeguarding Reporting Form and reported to the LSE WP coordinator/officer's line manager in the first instance.

Support for LSE WP team staff

For each online activity, it is expected that at least two members of staff will be working. An additional member of the WP team should be arranged to be 'on call' as a back-up in case someone is unexpectedly unavailable, should also be arranged. The back-up should be fully briefed and able to step in at short notice if needed. In addition, one of the LSE WP DSLs should also be available 'on call' during the event. The WP Officers, the Head or Deputy Head of WP will also be available for support and assistance at any time if required. LSE WP coordinators/officers should initially try to contact their own line manager during office hours, where possible.

If a participant, parent/carer, teacher/adviser, staff member or member of the public makes a complaint about an LSE WP activity, the Head or Deputy Head of WP should be contacted immediately to provide support and assistance to the LSE WP coordinator/officer. After discussion, they should agree on next steps and the appropriate course of action.

Dealing with an emergency or serious incident

For example: death or serious illness, serious criminal act, violence towards/by participant or staff member, missing person, unauthorised person on-site refusing to leave, adverse weather incident, significant travel disruption, venue incident leading to event cancellation (e.g. fire/flooding/power failure), mass illness (e.g. food poisoning/contagious disease).

- In the event of an emergency, support should be sought from on-site venue staff (e.g. security staff) in the first instance.
- If on campus, call Security Control Room on extension 666 or 0207 955 6200 and they will assess if the Major Incident Initial Response Plan needs to be enacted.
- The Head or Deputy Head of WP (or the Director of Recruitment and Admissions, in their absence) should be contacted immediately to provide support and assistance.
- A written record of all significant incidents should be made by the WP coordinator/officer (using the LSE Accident/Dangerous Occurrence Form³) and forwarded to the LSE Health and Safety Team immediately.

Emergency contact details for participants and staff should always be available to the WP coordinator/officer, LSE WP DSLs and other key staff (e.g. course directors/leaders). Care should be taken with these documents, however, as the information contained within them is confidential. The documents must be kept securely locked, password protected and/or access restricted to LSE WP staff.

Wherever possible, if LSE WP staff need to make telephone contact with WP participants this should be done through LSE equipment e.g. a LSE WP mobile phone. If participants need to use the WP mobile to contact parents/carers, ensure that the call is made by a member of the WP team in the first instance. The phone should then be passed to the participant and the outcome of the call noted by the WP staff member.

Dealing with injury or illness of a participant or staff member

Next of kin details should be obtained for all LSE WP activity participants and staff/volunteers to enable us to contact them in case of injury or illness. In all cases, the LSE Accident and Dangerous Occurrence Form⁴ must be completed. Under no circumstances should staff administer medication or provide any form of medication to participants, even if it can be bought 'over the counter'. Parents/carers are asked to provide information about medical conditions/medication taken relating to their child when they agree to them participating on the LSE WP activity.

If a situation requires immediate action and is a medical emergency that is life threatening, qualified First Aiders should be called (via security, if on the LSE campus) to administer first aid and the venue / site security should be called to request an ambulance or provide further assistance. If there is no qualified First Aider available, contact 999 and follow the instructions of the emergency services. Should the participant need to be taken to a medical centre/hospital, two DBS-checked members of staff should accompany them wherever possible. Parents/carers (or next of kin, in the case of staff members) should be informed at the earliest opportunity and they should be asked to collect the person who is unwell/meet them at the medical centre/hospital as soon as possible.

³ <https://info.lse.ac.uk/staff/divisions/Risk-and-Compliance-Unit/Health-and-Safety/Arrangements-for-implementing-the-Schools-Health-and-Safety-Policy>

⁴ <https://info.lse.ac.uk/staff/divisions/Risk-and-Compliance-Unit/Health-and-Safety/Arrangements-for-implementing-the-Schools-Health-and-Safety-Policy>

If a participant or staff member becomes injured during an event, contact a First Aider and follow their advice/instructions. Ensure that the cause of the injury will not cause further risk to others and report immediately to venue/site security staff if it requires immediate attention. If there is no qualified First Aider available, a member of staff should call security to request emergency services. Parents/carers (or next of kin, in the case of staff member) should be informed at the earliest opportunity to discuss the most appropriate course of action and decide if the participant/staff member is able to continue with the activity or not.

If a participant or staff member is unwell with a pre-existing condition, discuss with them how this is usually treated and managed. Inform parents/carers if it is a participant who is unwell and discuss the most appropriate course of action and decide if the participant/staff member is able to continue with the activity or not. If this is not a pre-existing condition, seek advice from a First Aider. Inform parents/carers if it is a participant is unwell and discuss the most appropriate course of action and decide if the participant/staff member can continue with the activity or not.

c) Activity Guidance – In-person activities

Consent from parents/carers for event attendance

When school/college students are attending LSE WP in-person events as individuals and not being accompanied by either a member of staff from their school/college or by a parent/carer, parent/carer consent should be obtained. Participants must also provide the name and contact details of their next of kin, to be used only in case of emergency.

Registration protocol

At the start of an in-person event, a register should be taken of all staff and participants. For a full-day event, a register should also be taken again at the start of the afternoon session. If anyone who is expected to attend, doesn't arrive within 30 minutes of the start time and hasn't been in contact with the LSE WP coordinator/office, the individual should be contacted to establish their whereabouts (initially by text message). If they do not reply within the designated timeframe, a parent/carer should be contacted in the case of participants who haven't arrived. The next of kin should be called in the case of a member of staff who hasn't arrived. A record of this call should be logged on the attendance spreadsheet of the event/programme.

Supervision at events

Recommended ratios follow NSPCC guidance⁵. A ratio of one adult to eight children should be followed for events involving children aged 9-12 and a ratio of one adult to ten children should be followed for events involving children aged 13-18. If these recommended ratios are altered in any way, clear explanation should be provided in the event risk assessment and signed off by the Head/Deputy Head of WP.

Security and first aid at events

The contact details of the School security team (for on campus events) or security staff (if an external venue), and arrangements for first aid provision for each venue, should be easily accessible at all times. A First Aider must always be available and easily contactable during an in-person event.

Missing children at events

If a child or young person goes missing, and after an initial search still cannot be found, the LSE WP coordinator/officer should alert the Head or Deputy Head of WP and they should inform the participant's parents/carers. Together, they should then discuss whether to notify the Police immediately or make further enquiries in relation to places where the child may have gone. This judgement should be informed by the level of the child's vulnerability or an assessment of risk to themselves or others. If contacting the Police, details of the risk assessment must be shared along with the child's details. If the LSE WP Team are aware a child is subject to a child protection (Section 47) enquiry or on a child protection plan, child protection register, or a supervision requirement, then the Children's Services team at the relevant Local Authority must be informed immediately. Staff should ensure that once the child or young person is found, parents, carers and any other relevant agencies are notified immediately and that young person is treated positively on their return. The LSE WP coordinator/officer must ensure that an LSE WP Safeguarding Concern Reporting Form is completed and the action taken to address the incident should be agreed with the parents/carers and the Head/Deputy Head of WP.

d) Activity Guidance – Online activities

This guidance is specifically for LSE WP activities conducted online by the LSE WP Team only including, but not limited to, asynchronous use of online communications platforms and live meetings/webinars/events.

Consent from parents/carers for event attendance

⁵ <https://learning.nspcc.org.uk/research-resources/briefings/recommended-adult-child-ratios-working-with-children#article-top>

When school/college students are participating in an LSE WP activity that involves multiple online events as individuals, parent/carer consent should be obtained and all participants must also provide the name and contact details of their next of kin, to be used in case of emergency. For one-off online events for students in Year 10-13, consent is not explicitly required but a clear statement should be included on the registration form to ensure that participants have informed their parents/carers of their intended participation. LSE WP coordinators/officers considering running one-off online events for students in Year 9 and below should contact the Head or Deputy Head of WP in the first instance for advice at an early stage in their planning.

Online Platforms

Any online activity should take place on approved online platforms only. These platforms will need to have the following features:

- Access to the platform is enabled only for the intended participants
- Personal information (including full names, contact details and email addresses) is only accessible to those with the right permissions and is not publicly viewable
- Staff can remove people from the platform if necessary

Examples of currently in-use platforms include the Sutton Trust Online platform, The Access Platform, Zoom Meetings and Zoom Webinar. Moodle, Microsoft Teams and MS Live Events are other platforms used within LSE which may be suitable for some forms of online delivery. The Head or Deputy Head of WP should be consulted before use of any new online platform is considered.

All online platforms must:

- Be appropriate for the participants' age group
- Enable the organiser to restrict the audience to just the intended participants and staff member
- Ensure that participant and staff personal information (e.g. contact information) is not visible to anybody else presenting or viewing the stream
- Enable the organiser to reject or remove somebody from the session if necessary
- Enable the organiser to control whether participants can have their videos/microphones on
- Enable the organiser to prevent participants from sending private messages or chatting 1-2-1 with other participants

Prior to running a live session, the LSE WP coordinator/officer must:

- Familiarise themselves with the LSE Safeguarding Policy and Core WP Team Safeguarding Guidance and Procedures
- Ensure they are complying with any safeguarding policies for the platform being used
- Ensure they have the contact details of the LSE WP DSLs and make them aware the session is taking place
- Ensure they have enough staff to support the event. Participants must be supervised by at least two staff in every live online activity and at least one of those should hold a relevant DBS check.
- Ensure all contributors are employed by the LSE or invited guests only
- Ensure they are using an LSE institutional account (not a personal account) where possible and that everyone's personal contact details are never visible to participants
- Ensure that all LSE staff supervising the activity are familiar with the platform and understand how participants will be using it
- Plan the structure and content of the activity carefully to ensure that discussions remain on topic
- Define a clear time and space for the webinar to take place. (e.g. participants should only be able to contact the speakers/contributors and vice versa during the webinar on the agreed platform)
- Ensure they have a signed media consent form for anyone identifiable in a recording, including LSE staff members, before publishing any recording of the session

The LSE WP coordinator/officer should also ensure the participants:

- Do not respond to contact requests from people they do not know
- Do not share details of the online session codes/passcodes with anyone else
- Understand who they should contact if they hear anything upsetting or inappropriate
- Are sent the 'Online Safeguarding Guidance' information at the end of this document before joining the online platform

During the live session, the LSE WP coordinator/officer should:

- Ensure that the session is taking place in a neutral area where nothing personal can be seen/heard where possible and there is nothing inappropriate in the background (blurring backgrounds or adding an LSE-branded virtual background is recommended)
- Ensure that no LSE staff member shares any personal details (even if inadvertently) and make them aware that they would need to report this to the LSE Data Protection Officer if a breach did occur

- Remind at the start of the session participants how to keep themselves safe (as outlined above) in addition to reminding them of the ground rules for the session
- Ensure that LSE staff are briefed regarding sharing their screen to ensure that there is nothing inappropriate on the screens/internet pages/browser history

If a participant raises a safeguarding concern, or if a member of staff has a safeguarding concern about a participant or a member of LSE staff, the procedures outlined in the LSE Core WP Team Safeguarding Guidance and Procedures document should be followed immediately.

Virtual events organised by schools or third parties (e.g. UCAS, charities) to which LSE WP staff may contribute, are not covered by this document and are subject to the safeguarding policies and controls of the event organiser. Staff to whom this applies should take note of the best practice outlined in this document and seek further guidance, if necessary, from the event organiser.

If participants on an LSE WP programme are being invited to join an online activity run by another organisation (e.g. charity, partner university etc) then a risk assessment should be obtained from the organisers and shared with the Head or Deputy Head of WP and the safeguarding policies and procedures of the host organisation should be followed at all times.

Guidance to share with participants about participating in LSE WP online activities

Thank you for your interest in participating in an online activity run by the LSE WP Team. As many individuals taking part in this activity may be under the age of 18, this activity needs to conform to the measures in our [LSE Safeguarding Policy](#). Before you register to take part, please be aware of the following guidance for participants which we expect you to follow to take part:

- Please do not share the link to or details of the online activity with anyone else. Each attendee should register individually for the activity they wish to attend.
- You are only expected to take part in the online activity on the advertised day/time. Do not try to contact staff or other participants outside of this time, or ask staff for any personal contact details, as they will not be able to share these with you or have 1-2-1 conversations online.
- Please do not take photographs of your screen or share any images of the online activity with anyone else; this is for your safety as well as the safety of other participants and staff.
- Participation in this online activity requires responsible behaviour from you, and we always expect you to show respect towards other participants and staff. If your behaviour is inappropriate in any way, staff will immediately warn you of this and may stop your participation in the session. We may also report any inappropriate behaviour to relevant authorities.
- Please let a member of staff know immediately if you have any concerns about the online activity or believe that someone has broken the guidelines above. Please email wideningparticipation@lse.ac.uk
- For advice about keeping safe online as a young person, please see [the NSPCC website](#).
- If you have experienced online abuse or are worried about the way someone has been communicating online, you can report this via the [Child Exploitation and Online Protection police centre \(CEOP\) website](#).
- Please familiarise yourself with the guidance [at this link](#) to prepare yourself for online learning via Zoom.

4. Responding to safeguarding concerns

All WP staff/volunteers should be aware that abuse, neglect and safeguarding issues are rarely standalone events that can be covered by one definition or label. In most cases, multiple issues will overlap with one another. Abuse and neglect are forms of maltreatment of a child. Somebody may abuse or neglect a child either directly by inflicting harm, or indirectly, 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 a stranger. They may be abused by an adult or adults, or another child or children.

a) Working with young people where there are existing safeguarding and child protection concerns

If a staff member becomes aware that a child/young person is subject to a Child Protection Plan, is on the Child Protection Register, or deemed to be in a high risk situation (e.g. at risk of sexual exploitation, trafficking or missing), they must raise this with the WP DSL in the first instance. The LSE WP DSL will consider and record any risks/potential risks to the participant, including details that may need to be shared with other staff, and agree how to best support the student throughout their time on the LSE WP activities.

b) Dealing with safeguarding or child protection concerns relating to a participant on an LSE WP activity

Step 1: You become aware of a concern, which may arise in a range of ways as outline below

DIRECT DISCLOSURE: A child or young person discloses information to an LSE WP Coordinator/Officer about abuse or harm that they are experiencing (in person/on the phone/via email)

Remain calm and support the child, reassuring them it is right thing to tell someone and what has happened is not their fault. Make it clear that you cannot keep this information a secret but you will only pass it on to those people who need to know in order to help you. Listen carefully, without interruption, and try not to be visibly shocked or angry at what you are being told. Accept the child will disclose only what is comfortable and recognise their bravery/strength for talking about something that is difficult. Don't be afraid of saying the 'wrong' thing - you can be distracted by needing to know exactly the 'right' thing to say but as long as you listen supportively the child will benefit from talking to you. It is not your job to investigate or verify what is being said, or examine the child; this is the statutory responsibility of the local authority/child protection services and/or the Police. However, it is important to allow the participant to speak openly without any judgement as to the information they are sharing. Where necessary you can ask open questions to clarify the information shared.

Immediate action to take:

- Always offer reassurance, listen to, and take seriously, what they are saying.
- Never promise to keep secrets or be persuaded by the child or family not to take action if you are worried that a child is being harmed or is at risk of harm.
- Ensure you have clarified your understanding if needed, for example, you can ask open questions to get some more context, or you could summarise and repeat back to the child what they have said using their own words if needed. However, you should never make assumptions or ask leading questions – it is not your role to investigate the issue.
- Explain the process for what happens next to the child - that you will need to pass this information on, to whom, the reasons why and possible actions
- Consult immediately with one of the LSE WP DSLs and share the information that has been disclosed
- Make a full and accurate record of the conversation, including the words they used where possible, as soon as you can, using the WP Team Safeguarding Reporting Form

DISCLOSURE TO A THIRD PARTY: A member of staff (not the LSE WP coordinator/officer) or a young person participating in an LSE WP activity tells the LSE WP coordinator/office about a disclosure they have received from a participant about abuse or harm that they are experiencing (in person/on the phone/via email)

Remain calm and support the person reporting the disclosure, reassuring them it is right thing to tell someone. Make it clear that you cannot keep this information a secret but you will only pass it on to those people who need to know in order to help them. Listen carefully, without interruption, and try not to be visibly shocked or angry at what you are being told.

Immediate action to take:

- Always offer reassurance, listen to, and take seriously, what they are saying
- Never promise to keep secrets or be persuaded not to take action if you are worried that a child is being harmed or is at risk of harm
- Ensure you have clarified your understanding if needed, for example, you could summarise and repeat back to the person making the disclosure what they have said, using their own words if needed
- Explain that you will need to pass this information on for further action to be taken
- Consult immediately with one of the LSE WP DSLs and share the information that has been disclosed
- Make a full and accurate record of the conversation, including the words used by the person making the disclosure where possible, as soon as you can, using the WP Team Safeguarding Reporting Form
- Provide appropriate support for the person who has raised the concern e.g. a quiet space, someone to talk to, signposting to other services for support
- In discussion with the LSE WP DSL, provide appropriate support for the person about whom there is a concern e.g. signposting to other services for support

CONCERN RAISED INDIRECTLY OR VIA THIRD PARTY: The LSE WP coordinator/officer, another member of staff or a participant raises a concern about a young person based on their behaviour/conduct/interactions they have had with the individual, but there hasn't been a specific disclosure

This may arise when someone observes a young person's behaviour or conduct, notices a change in their behaviour, sees something that is concerning (such as bruising) or has concerns about a potential safeguarding issue as a result of a conversation with the young person. A very useful list of types of abuse and other possible safeguarding issues can be found on the [NSPCC website](#). Some example of concerns might include:

- Hints about abuse / harm or concerning language being used in discussions or work completed by the participant

- Observing self-harm marks, bruising, burns or other injuries
- Concerns about someone's mental health or wellbeing
- Observing sudden changes or unexpected behaviour e.g. a participant becomes very withdrawn
- Observing serious aggression or inappropriate behaviour towards other participants or staff

Immediate action to take:

- Remain calm and support the person who has raised the concern
- Explain the process you will need to take and that this cannot be kept a secret, but reassure them that this will be taken seriously and they've done the right thing in raising their concerns
- It is not your job to investigate or verify what is being said, or examine the child; this is the statutory responsibility of the local authority/child protection services and/or the Police
- Consult immediately with one of the LSE WP DSLs and share what you have been told
- Make a full and accurate record of what you have been told, using the specific words used where possible, on the LSE WP Team Safeguarding Reporting Form
- Provide appropriate support for the person who has raised the concern e.g. a quiet space, someone to talk to, signposting to other services for support
- In discussion with the LSE WP DSL, provide appropriate support for the person about whom there is a concern e.g. signposting to other services for support

REMOTE CONCERNS: You have concerns about a participant before or after they are directly taking part in a LSE WP activity (e.g. via an online platform/phone/email)

If you receive a telephone call, text message or email from a participant before or after an LSE WP activity (or during a activity which is not taking place in person) and you have safeguarding concerns based on what they are saying, take as much detail as possible, including full name, date of birth, contact details, email address, mobile number and what is happening to them.

Immediate action to take:

- Remain calm and listen to what they are saying, reassuring them that they are doing the right thing
- If you feel that the child is in immediate danger, advise them to call 999 and ask for the Police immediately. You should also contact 999 yourself as soon as possible to check that the child has referred the concern to them. If the child is not in agreement with this/not able to do this, you have a duty to call the police and pass on any information you have.
- If the child is not in immediate danger, consult immediately with one of the LSE WP DSLs and share the information that has been disclosed
- Make a full and accurate record of what you have been told, using the specific words used where possible, on the LSE WP Team Safeguarding Reporting Form
- In discussion with the LSE WP DSL, provide appropriate support for the person e.g. signposting to other services for support

Step 2: Take appropriate action

In emergency circumstances, where there is certain immediate and significant danger to an individual

In this instance, the LSE WP coordinator/officer should take the appropriate course of action to secure the immediate safety of the child, unless to do so would put themselves or others at risk. This could include making referrals to the Police or Children's Services (see Step 4).

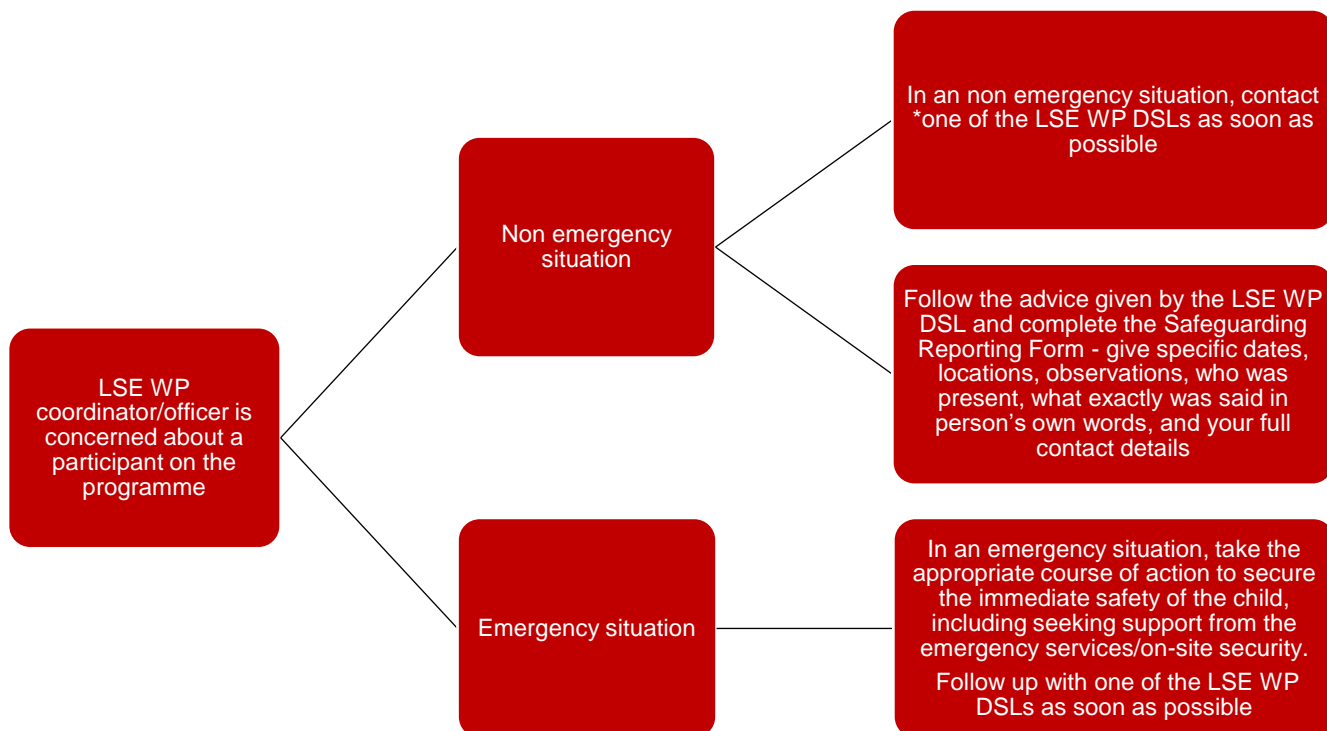
If there is any doubt over which agency should be contacted regarding the situation, the non-emergency Police number (101) can be called. As soon as possible, the LSE WP coordinator/officer should inform the WP DSL of the situation for support and assistance.

When the concern is initially raised, if it becomes clear that immediate and emergency medical treatment is required you should seek that help immediately. If consent from parents/carers has not been provided for emergency medical treatment or circumstances prevent permission being obtained, the medical practitioner may consider the child to be of an age and level of understanding to give their own consent or decide to proceed without consent. In these circumstances, parents/carers must be informed by the medical practitioner as soon as possible and a full record must be made at the time. Parents/carers must not be informed if this would put the child at risk of significant harm.

In non-emergency circumstances

In this instance, the LSE WP coordinator/officer should inform the LSE WP DSL of the concern as soon as possible to report the concern and agree next steps.

The flowchart below should be used by the LSE WP coordinator/officer to assess the situation and make a decision about the appropriate next steps to take if there is a safeguarding concern.



Step 3: The LSE WP DSL decides whether to make a referral

Once the LSE WP DSL has received information from the LSE WP coordinator/officer they need to decide whether to make a referral. There are a number of instances in which a referral must be made:

- If the child is subject to a Care Order or an ongoing Child Protection Investigation, or has a child protection plan, any new incident must be referred by the WP DSL to the lead professional/allocated social worker/local child protection services and information shared accordingly.
- If there is a concern that the child is, or may be at risk of, being trafficked, local inter-agency protocols should be followed and the Police/Childrens' Services team of the relevant Local Authority should be contacted to discuss whether an online referral to the National Referral Mechanism⁶ should be made.

If the child is not subject to a current Child Protection Plan or child protection or care proceedings, a supervision order or at risk of being trafficked, or is not known to the service, the LSE WP DSL should make an assessment of whether the information received is deemed to be a child protection referral (i.e. the child is at risk of significant harm). If they are unsure of the course of action to take, they can seek guidance through the LSE safeguarding structure and/or local authority. *Remember that the Childrens' Service team of the Local Authority in which the participant resides should be contacted in the case of any referral (see postcode checker: <https://www.gov.uk/find-local-council>).*

If the LSE WP DSL's assessment is that the child is suffering, or likely to suffer, significant harm, a referral must be made to the Children's Services team of the relevant Local Authority to discuss the case. They will agree with Children's services what the child and parents/carers will be told about the next steps, by whom and when and actions which need to be taken. Referrals of suspected child abuse must always be confirmed by encrypted email within 24 hours. The WP DSL should also inform the LSE Lead Safeguarding Officer if any referral is made. If Children's Service do not make further contact with the LSE WP DSL within three days, the LSE WP DSL must contact them for an update. If the LSE WP DSL is not satisfied that the child protection service's response adequately safeguards the child they must inform their line manager who can make representations on LSE's behalf.

If the LSE WP DSL's assessment is that a referral is not needed, they must identify what course of action is to be taken to respond to the concerns identified and ensure that all decisions and the reasons for them are recorded.

Step 4: What to do if there are professional disagreements or escalation is needed

⁶ <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/human-trafficking-victims-referral-and-assessment-forms/guidance-on-the-national-referral-mechanism-for-potential-adult-victims-of-modern-slavery-england-and-wales>

Internally

If there is a disagreement between the LSE WP DSL and other member of staff about the need to report concerns/make a referral, the LSE lead safeguarding officer must be consulted immediately. If a member of staff disagrees with the decisions of the LSE WP DSL and has evidence to suggest that the child is not adequately safeguarded they should seek advice from another senior manager in LSE. They should do this with their direct line manager's agreement if possible but also have the right to raise your concerns regardless of line manager's consent and could do this via the LSE Whistleblowing Policy.

Externally

If the decision of the Children's Services team is different to the decision of the LSE WP DSL they should contact the Children's Services Manager for discussion to follow up concerns within 24 hours. The WP DSL should also Inform LSE's Lead Safeguarding Officer and their line manager to discuss possible actions and options available.

c) Dealing with safeguarding allegations or concerns relating to an adult engaged in an LSE WP activity, or when someone makes an allegation or complaint about a staff member to you

A safeguarding allegation is one where information comes to light from any source, which suggests that an adult working for or on behalf of LSE's WP Team has or may have:

- a) caused significant harm to a child or vulnerable adult;
- b) committed a criminal offence against a child or adult; or
- c) behaved in such a way that calls into question their suitability to work with children or vulnerable adults.

This includes historical information about abuse an adult may have experienced as a child whilst participating in activity with LSE's WP Team.

You may become aware of this from a range of sources, for example the person may tell you themselves, you may witness something or be told by someone else about something they have seen, or you may receive information about an allegation from a relevant authority, such as the Police or the Disclosure and Barring Service. You may also have concerns about the conduct or behaviour of a LSE staff member engaged in an LSE WP activity, for example you may have witnessed unacceptable behaviour or become aware that an LSE staff member has breached the LSE WP Safeguarding Code of Conduct.

Some examples of concerns might include:

- An LSE WP staff member is seen engaging in an inappropriate relationship with a participant, such as by giving gifts, hugging, kissing or touching them or having inappropriate conversations
- An LSE WP staff member is seen interacting with a participant on social media, or has photos of a participant on their phone, or is seen exchanging contact details or meeting a participant alone
- An LSE WP staff member engages in private conversations with a participant, away from the main group without other people present

Managing an allegation of abuse may involve one or all of: a police investigation of a possible criminal offence; enquiries and assessment by children's social care about whether a child is in need of protection or in need of services; and/or consideration by an employer of disciplinary action in respect of the individual.

Immediate action to take:

- It is not your job to investigate the allegation or concern, and you should not discuss this with the individual concerned or anyone else.
- You should report your concerns to the LSE WP coordinator/officer immediately (or one of the LSE WP DSLs if you cannot contact the LSE WP coordinator/officer).
- If for any reason you do not feel able to alert the LSE WP coordinator/officer or LSE WP DSLs you can contact the LSE Safeguarding Lead Officer (the Chief Operating Officer) and/or use the Whistleblowing Policy and Procedure.
- Upon receiving information concerning an allegation, the LSE WP DSL should firstly ensure the safety of any child or young person involved.
- The LSE WP DSL should advise the Director of Recruitment and Admissions and LSE HR team of the allegation and work with them to manage the next steps, including referring to the relevant Local Authority Designated Officer (LADO) and following LSE's [Staff Disciplinary Procedures](#).
- The LSE WP Safeguarding Reporting Form must be regularly updated when there is significant new information, and/or reviewed quarterly, and updated when the outcome of the investigation is known.

d) Dealing with concerns relating to the 'Prevent Duty'

According to the Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015, universities are legally obliged, under the 'Prevent Duty', to have due regard to the need to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism, known as 'radicalisation'. LSE has no direct legal duty to take action under the Prevent Duty in respect of suspected radicalisation of children or young people involved in our LSE WP activities, as that will fall to another agency (e.g. their school or college). However, we must report any concerns we have to the relevant authority, as set out below, so that they can take action.

Immediate action to take:

- Contact the WP DSL immediately, informing them of your concerns in relation to radicalisation
- If you suspect that an individual has actually committed a crime of any sort (including a terrorist crime), or is about to do so, you should call the police, then report the matter to the LSE WP DSL.
- Make a full and accurate record of your concerns as soon as possible using the WP Team Safeguarding Reporting Form.
- In all cases where the LSE WP DSL suspects that the suspected vulnerability may have an angle requiring further investigation under the Prevent duty, they will contact the LSE Prevent lead. The LSE Prevent Lead will then assess the situation and as necessary take any action to inform the individual's school, college or local authority of the concerns.

e) Dealing with concerns relating to sexual violence, bullying and harassment

LSE has two specific policies that deal with bullying/ harassment and sexual harassment/violence:

- [Anti-Bullying and Anti-Harassment Policy](#)
- [Sexual Harassment and Sexual Violence Policy](#)

Incidents can be reported through the [Report It, Stop It online form](#), and there is specific advice about sexual harassment/violence on LSE's [Making a Choice website](#). This website also lists designated and trained [Safe Contacts](#), who can be approached directly or through the EDI Office via edi@lse.ac.uk.

5. Record keeping and information sharing

All records must be completed and stored in accordance with the LSE Information Asset and Records Management Policy⁷ as soon as possible. In all circumstances, full records of concerns, action taken and outcomes must be recorded, using the LSE WP Safeguarding Reporting Form (see Appendix 4).

GDPR and the Data Protection Act (DPA) 2018 do not prevent or limit the sharing of information for the purpose of keeping children and young people safe⁸. However, all practitioners who have access to information about children and young people have a duty to preserve confidence and an individual's right to confidentiality must be respected. All personal information must be treated with care and kept securely; this means not disclosing it to people who do not need to know. Information sharing should take place on the basis of the 'Seven golden rules to sharing information'⁹

In normal circumstances the adult or young person who is the subject of the information will be required give consent before information about them can be shared. The consent of the person who provided the information may also be required. However, if information is disclosed which indicates that an individual is at serious risk of harm, then confidentiality cannot be preserved as safeguarding procedures must take precedence. The term '*lawful basis*' within GDPR and the DPA 2018 permit the sharing of information such as where a failure to do so would cause the safety or well-being of a child to be compromised.

6. Support for you in dealing with a safeguarding concern

We recognise that dealing with a safeguarding issue as a member of staff may be upsetting and challenging for you. Staff are encouraged to seek support at any time, including from the following:

- Confidential [LSE Employee Assistance](#) (available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week)
- Confidential [LSE Staff Counselling](#)
- Support from your own Line Manager and / or one of the LSE WP DSLs

⁷ <https://info.lse.ac.uk/staff/services/Policies-and-procedures/Assets/Documents/recManPol.pdf>

⁸

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/721581/Information_sharing_advice_practitioners_safeguarding_services.pdf

⁹

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/721581/Information_sharing_advice_practitioners_safeguarding_services.pdf

Appendix 1: Useful contacts

Internal

LSE WP Designated Safeguarding Leads

Jess Bond, Head of Widening Participation j.f.bond@lse.ac.uk / 07471 037977

Alice Kin, Deputy Head of Widening Participation a.m.king1@lse.ac.uk / 07800 509246

Rosie Pethica, Deputy Head of Widening Participation r.pethica@lse.ac.uk / 07767 116374

LSE Widening Participation Team widening.participation@lse.ac.uk / 020 7852 3662

LSE Designated Safeguarding Lead Andrew Young, Chief Operating Officer andrew.young@lse.ac.uk / 020 7955 7797

LSE Prevent Contact Louise Nadal, School Secretary l.nadal@lse.ac.uk / 020 7849 4959

LSE Security Team Internal phone – 666 / External phone – 0207 955 6555

External

Childline 0800 1111

NSPCC 0808 800 5000

Medical assistance

Campus - St Philips Medical Centre - Pethick-Lawrence House, 2nd Floor, Clement's Inn, London, WC2A 2AZ.

Nearest NHS Walk-In Centre - 1 Frith Street, W1D 3HZ.

Nearest A&E Department - St Thomas' Hospital, Westminster Bridge Road, SE1 7EH

Police If you are concerned about the immediate safety of a child, call 666 from an LSE campus phone or 999 from an outside phone and ask for the police.

City of Westminster Children's Services Team If you are concerned that a child or young person is being harmed through abuse or neglect or for advice and guidance on all child protection issues telephone 020 7641 6000 / 020 7641 4000.

Local Authority Designated Officer (LADO) For advice and guidance and to report an issue about an adult who is working with children and young people telephone 020 7641 7668 and ask to speak to the Duty Child Protection Adviser for City of Westminster.

Local Safeguarding Board for City of Westminster <https://www.rbkc.gov.uk/lscb/>

Appendix 2: Useful links and glossary of terms

Useful statutory documents

[What to do if you are worried about a child being abused \(2015\)](#)

[Working together to Safeguarding Children \(2018\)](#)

[Information Sharing Advice](#)

Glossary of terms

Child	The Children Acts 1989 & 2004 and the Children (Northern Ireland) Order, 1995 define a child as anyone who has not yet reached their 18th birthday.
Safeguarding	In England, safeguarding children and promoting their welfare means protecting them from maltreatment, preventing impairment of their health and development, and ensuring that they grow up in circumstances consistent with the provision of safe and effective care.
Child Protection	Child protection is part of safeguarding and promoting welfare. This action refers to the activity that is undertaken to protect specific children who are suffering, or are at risk of suffering, significant harm. Alongside physical, sexual and emotional abuse and neglect this includes children affected by: domestic abuse, female genital mutilation, forced marriage, honour-based violence, 'missing' children, young runaways, children exploited by gangs, child sexual exploitation and trafficking.
Abuse	A form of maltreatment of a child. Somebody 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 abuse them.
Physical Abuse	A form of abuse which may involve hitting, shaking, throwing, poisoning, burning or scalding, drowning, suffocating or otherwise causing physical harm to a child. Physical harm may also be caused when a parent or carer fabricates the symptoms of, or deliberately induces, illness in a child.
Emotional Abuse	The persistent emotional maltreatment of a child such as to cause 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 participating in normal social interaction. It may involve seeing or hearing the ill treatment of another. It may involve serious bullying (including cyber bullying), causing children frequently to 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 also occur alone.

<p>Sexual Abuse</p>	<p>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 oral sex) 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). Sexual abuse is not solely perpetrated by adult males. Women can also commit acts of sexual abuse, as can other children.</p>
<p>Neglect</p>	<p>The persistent failure to meet a child's basic physical and/or psychological needs, likely to result in the serious impairment of the child's health or development. Neglect may occur during pregnancy as a result of maternal substance abuse. Once a child is born, neglect may involve a parent or carer failing to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - provide adequate food, clothing and shelter (including exclusion from home abandonment); - protect a child from physical and emotional harm or danger; - ensure adequate supervision (including the use of inadequate care-givers); or - ensure access to appropriate medical care or treatment. <p>It may also include neglect of, or unresponsiveness to, a child's basic emotional needs.</p>
<p>Domestic Abuse and Violence</p>	<p>The cross-government definition of domestic violence and abuse is: any incident or pattern of incidents of controlling, coercive, threatening behaviour, violence or abuse between those aged 16 or over who are, or have been, intimate partners or family members regardless of gender or sexuality. The abuse can encompass, but is not limited to: emotional, financial, physical, psychological, or sexual behaviours. From December 2015, coercive or controlling domestic abuse is a crime punishable by up to 5 years in prison, under section 76 of the Serious Crimes Act 2015. This relates to a purposeful pattern of behaviour, which takes place over time, in order for one individual to exert power, control, or coercion over another.</p>
<p>Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE)</p>	<p>Sexual exploitation of children and young people (CSE) under 18 involves exploitative situations, contexts and relationships where young people (or a third person or persons) receive 'something' (e.g. food, accommodation, drugs, alcohol, cigarettes, affection, gifts, money) as a result of them performing, and/or another or others performing on them, sexual activities. In all cases those exploiting the child/young person have power over them by virtue of their age, gender, intellect, physical strength and/or economic or other resources.</p>
<p>Female Genital Mutilation (FGM)</p>	<p>Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) is a safeguarding issue, illegal in England and Wales under the FGM Act 2003 ("the 2003 Act"). It is a form of child abuse and violence against women and girls.</p>

Trafficking and Modern Slavery	The United Nations defines trafficking in children and adults as the recruitment, transportation, transfer, harbouring or receipt of persons, by means of the threat or use of force or other forms of coercion, or abduction, of fraud, of deception, of the abuse of power, or of a position of vulnerability, or the giving or receiving of payments to achieve the consent of a person having control over another person, for the purposes of exploitation.
Modern slavery	Modern slavery is a complex crime that takes a number of different forms. It encompasses slavery, servitude, forced and compulsory labour and human trafficking.
Gang Exploitation	There are a number of areas in which young people are put at risk by gang activity both through participation in and as victims of gang violence. Safeguarding procedures can provide a key tool for all agencies working with young people to assist them when working together to prevent young people from being drawn into gangs, to support those who have been drawn into the margins of gangs; and to protect those who are at immediate risk of harm either as members or victims of gangs. Gang activity can also be used as the means through which children and young people are sexually exploited and/or trafficked.
Young Carer	A young carer is a person under 18 who provides or intends to provide care for another person (of any age, except generally where that care is provided for payment, pursuant to a contract or as voluntary work).
Private Fostering	Private fostering falls within safeguarding as it relates to the legal status, wellbeing and protection of children under 16 years, or under 18 years if disabled, who reside for more than 28 days in the care of someone who is not a parent, close relative, or someone with parental responsibility. The duty here is to ensure reporting of these children to the relevant local authorities.
Allegation	An allegation is information, which comes to light from any source which suggests that an employee or volunteer has behaved in a way that has harmed, or may have harmed, or had the potential to harm a child or adult at risk. Although there are some differences in how allegations are handled across the four nations, the process for responding to allegations remains the same.

Appendix 4: LSE WP Safeguarding Concern Reporting Form

LSE Widening Participation Team

Safeguarding Concern Reporting Form

Use this form to supply as much detail as is immediately available to you, but do not attempt to obtain additional details from, or about, anyone involved in the concern/allegation. Do not include any assumptions or details that are not explicitly stated by or observed about the person about whom you have a concern.

Any additional line of questioning, no matter how well intentioned, may further jeopardise the welfare of the child or young person involved.

This form must be completed if there are any concerns or incidents which relate to the protection of a child participating in a LSE WP or the conduct/behaviour of a member of staff. It must be completed immediately after the incident/concern is raised, and certainly within 24 hours.

Please complete electronically or in block capitals taking care to ensure that your writing is legible. Please ensure that this form is given to the LSE WP coordinator/officer or the LSE WP DSL as soon as possible. If sending electronically, please password protect the document and send the password to the recipient in a separate email.

Details of the person reporting a concern initially:

Name:
Department:
Position:
Contact telephone number:
Contact e-mail address:

Details of the person about whom you have a concern:

Name:
Role (eg participant, student ambassador etc):
LSE WP activity/project:

Details of concern

1. Are you reporting your own concerns or passing on those of somebody else?

2. Brief description of what has prompted these concerns

Include dates, times, venue, what was said etc. of any specific incidents and description of any alleged or suspected abuse - e.g. neglect, emotional abuse, sexual abuse, physical abuse, discrimination or financial/material abuse – include descriptions of any injuries or marks which are observed.

3. Action taken and by whom (including any agencies/people contacted)

4. Follow up

Signatures

Signed (person reporting initial concern):

Name:

Position:

Date:

Signed (WP DSL):

Name:

Position:

Date:

Document control

Key information

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Contact details	WP Team Designated Safeguarding Leads Jess Bond – Head of Widening Participation J.F.Bond@lse.ac.uk 07471 037977 Alice King –Deputy Head of Widening Participation a.m.king1@lse.ac.uk 07800 509246

Version history

Version	Date	Approved by	Notes
1.0	13/10/20	J.F. Bond	Final version in relevant formatting.
1.1	26/11/20	J.F.Bond	Added in guidance about DBS checks in section 3 a), good practice on questioning in section 4 b) step 1, information about the duty of care we have to participants/reporting requirements if there are concerns in section 3 b) participant behaviour and conduct and also updated the main WP team phone number in Appendix 1.
2.0	07/05/21	J.F.Bond	Changed DSL details
3.0	04/10/21	J.F.Bond	Changed DSL details and updated DBS guidance

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