



QUWWAT-UL-ISLAM SOCIETY

www.quwwatulislam.org

QUWWAT-UL-ISLAM WEEKDAY MADRASAH

**SAFEGUARDING
POLICY**

Last Revised:

April 2023

Headteacher:	Mawlana Abdul Mateen
Alimah Head:	Mawlana Yahya Musa
Safeguarding Lead:	Mufti Sajid
Madrasah Committee:	

Abu Huraira reported: The Messenger of Allah, peace and blessings be upon him, said, "Whoever travels a path in search of knowledge, Allah will make easy for him a path to Paradise."

Saḥīḥ Muslim 2699

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CHILD PROTECTION AND SAFEGUARDING POLICY FOR QUWWAT-UL ISLAM MADRASAH

1. Introduction

This Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy is for all Madrasah staff, parents, volunteers and the wider Madrasah community. It forms part of the safeguarding arrangements for our Madrasah and should be read along with the Madrasah's Safer Recruitment Policy, Staff Code of Conduct, Safer Handling Policy, Anti-Bullying Policy, Behaviour Policy, Health and Safety Policy and Educational Visit Policy.

Our Madrasah is committed to safeguarding children and to create a culture of vigilance in Madrasah. This policy should also be read in conjunction with Keeping Children Safe in Education (DfE, 2019).

Safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children is defined in Keeping Children Safe in Education 2019 as:

- Protecting children from maltreatment
- Preventing impairment of children's health or development
- Ensuring that children grow up in circumstances consistent with the provision of safe and effective care
- Taking action to enable all children to have the best outcomes

2. Statutory framework

The development of appropriate procedures and the monitoring of good practice in the London Borough of Newham are the responsibilities of the Newham Safeguarding Children Partnership (NSCP) In Newham all professionals must work in accordance with the London Child Protection Procedures.

Our Madrasah also works in accordance with the following legislation and guidance:

- [Keeping Children Safe in Education](#) (DfE September 2019/2020)
- [Working Together to Safeguard Children](#) (HMG, 2018) Education Act 2002 ·
[Counter-Terrorism and Security Act \(HMG, 2015\)](#)
- [The Prevent duty Departmental advice for Schools and childcare providers \(DfE 2015\)](#)
[Prevent Duty Guidance for Further Education Establishments in England and Wales \(HMG 2015\)](#)
- [Serious Crime Act 2015](#) (Home Office, 2015)
- Sexual Offences Act (2003)
- Education (Pupil Registration) Regulations 2006
- General Data Protection Regulations 2018 (GDPR)
- [What to do if you're worried a child is being abused](#) (HMG, 2015)
- [Searching, screening and confiscation](#) (DfE, 2018)
- Children Act 1989
- Children Act 2004
- Children and Social Work Act 2017 Modern Slavery Act 2015
- The Homelessness Reduction Act 2017
- Information Sharing Advice for practitioners providing safeguarding services to children, young people, parents and carers. (DfE July 2018)

3. Madrasah roles and responsibilities

All adults working with or on behalf of children have a responsibility to protect them and to provide a safe environment that enables them to learn and achieve their full potential. However, there are identified key adults in Madrasahs and in the Local Authority who have specific responsibilities under child protection procedures. The names of those in our Madrasah with these specific responsibilities are shown on the front cover sheet of this policy.

3.1 The Madrasah Management Committee

The Madrasah Committee has a responsibility to ensure that the policies, procedures and professional development and training in our Madrasah are effective and comply with the statutory requirements at all times.

It ensures that all required policies relating to child protection and safeguarding are in place and that the child protection policy reflects statutory and local guidance and is reviewed at least annually.

The Madrasah Committee also ensures there is a named Designated Safeguarding Lead and Deputy Safeguarding Lead in place and that they have their safeguarding role explicitly in the job description and are trained for the role as set out in Keeping Children Safe in Education 2019.

The Madrasah Committee ensures the Madrasah contributes fully to inter-agency working, in line with statutory and local guidance. It ensures that information is stored and shared appropriately and in accordance with the statutory requirements.

The Madrasah Committee monitors to ensure that all staff members and volunteers undergo safeguarding and child protection training at induction and that it is then regularly updated. All staff members receive regular safeguarding and child protection updates, at least annually, to provide them with the relevant skills and up to date knowledge to keep our children safe. The Madrasah Committee will also ensure that staff has the knowledge, skills and understanding of the additional vulnerabilities of looked after and previously looked after children to keep them safe.

The Madrasah Committee ensures that children are taught to keep themselves safe, including online, ensuring that that appropriate filters and monitoring systems for online usage are in place in Madrasah. Our children will be taught how to keep themselves safe through teaching and learning.

The Madrasah Committee and Madrasah leadership team are responsible for robust safer recruitment procedures that help to deter, reject or identify people who may abuse children. It adheres to statutory responsibilities to check adults working with children and has recruitment and selection procedures in place. It also ensures that volunteers are appropriately supervised in Madrasah. We will undertake a risk assessment and use our professional judgement when deciding whether to obtain an enhanced DBS certificate for any volunteer undertaking unregulated activity.

3.2 The Designated Safeguarding Lead (and Deputy)

The Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) in Madrasah takes the lead responsibility for managing child protection referrals, safeguarding training and raising awareness of all child protection policies and procedures in Madrasah and that everyone in Madrasah, including temporary staff, volunteers and contractors are aware of these procedures and that they are followed at all times. They are a source of advice and support to other staff on child protection matters and make sure that timely referrals to Newham Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH)

(MASH) are made in accordance with current London Child Protection Procedures. The Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) works with the local authority and other agencies as required. If for any reason the Designated Safeguarding Lead is unavailable, the Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead will act in their absence.

In addition, in most cases homelessness would be considered in the context of children living with their families, however the Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) will be alert that some children may be homeless independently and this will require a different level of intervention and support.

3.3 The Head Teacher

The Head Teacher works in accordance with the requirements upon all Madrasah staff. In addition, the Head teacher ensures that all safeguarding policies and procedures adopted by the Madrasah Committee are followed by all staff.

3.4 All Madrasah staff

Everyone at our Madrasah has a responsibility to provide a learning environment in which our children can feel safe to learn. All staff members are prepared to identify children who may benefit from early help and understand their role and responsibilities within this process. This includes identifying any emerging problems so appropriate support may be provided and in liaison with the Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) report any concerns. All staff members are aware of and follow Madrasah processes as set out in this policy and are aware of how to make a referral to the Newham MASH when there is a need to do so.

4. Types of abuse / specific safeguarding issues

The four main types of abuse referred to in Keeping Children Safe in Education are:

- Physical
- Emotional
- Sexual
- Neglect

Our Madrasah is aware of the signs of abuse and neglect so we are able to identify children who may be in need of help or protection. Within those four main types of abuse there are specific types of abuse that our Madrasah is alert to.

4.1 Peer on Peer abuse

Our Madrasah may be the only stable, secure and safe place in the lives of children at risk of, or who have suffered harm. However, on occasions their behaviour may be challenging and defiant, or they may instead be withdrawn, or display abusive behaviours towards other children.

Child on child abuse can manifest itself in many ways. This may include bullying (including cyber bullying), on-line abuse, gender-based abuse, 'sexting' or sexually harmful behaviour. We do not tolerate any harmful behaviour in Madrasah and will take swift action to intervene where this occurs. We use the curriculum and assemblies to help children understand, in an age-appropriate way, what abuse is and we encourage them to tell a trusted adult if someone is behaving in a way that makes them feel uncomfortable. Our Madrasah understands the different gender issues that can be prevalent when dealing with peer on peer abuse.

4.2 Sexual Violence and Harassment

Sexual violence and harassment can occur between children of any age individually or in groups. Children who are victims of sexual violence and sexual harassment will likely find the experience stressful and distressing, and in all likelihood will adversely affect their educational attainment. Our Madrasah takes all victims seriously and they will be offered the appropriate support.

Our Madrasah will ensure that sexual violence and sexual harassment is not acceptable in any circumstances. We do not accept that it is 'just part of growing up' or a joke. Our Madrasah will manage such incidences in the same way by considering the need to undertake an immediate risk and needs assessment and as with any other child protection concern, we will follow the same procedures.

This may now include 'up skirting' which typically involves taking a picture under a person's clothing without them knowing, with the intention of viewing their genitals or buttocks to obtain sexual gratification, or cause the victim humiliation, distress or alarm. It is now a criminal offence under the Voyeurism (Offences) Act 2019.

4.3 Children with special educational needs and disabilities

Our Madrasah understands that children with special educational needs (SEN) and disabilities can face additional safeguarding challenges. Our Madrasah recognises that additional barriers can exist when recognising abuse and neglect in this group of children. These can include:

- Assumptions that indicators of possible abuse such as behaviour, mood and injury relate to the
- Child's disability, without further exploration;
- Be more prone to peer group isolation than other children;
- Children with SEN and disabilities can be disproportionately impacted by things like bullying, without outwardly showing signs
- Communication barriers that make telling an adult difficult and
- The requirement of personal or intimate care

Our Madrasah will consider these additional vulnerabilities and challenges in considering the safeguarding of our children.

4.4 Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE)

Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) is a form of child abuse, which can happen to boys and girls from any background or community.

"Child Sexual Exploitation is a form of child sexual abuse. It occurs when an individual or group takes advantage of an imbalance of power to coerce, manipulate or deceive a child or young person under the age of 18 into sexual activity (a) in exchange for something the victim needs or wants, and/or (b) for the financial advantage or increased status of the perpetrator or facilitator. The victim may have been sexually exploited even if the sexual activity appears consensual. Child sexual exploitation does not always involve physical contact; it can also occur through the use of technology".

The Department of Education (DfE, 2017)

It is understood that a significant number of children who are victims of CSE go missing from home, care and education at some point. Our Madrasah is alert to the signs and indicators of a child becoming at risk of, or subject to, CSE and will take appropriate action to respond to any concerns. The Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) will lead on any concerns and work with other agencies as appropriate.

4.5 Criminal Exploitation including County Lines

Criminal exploitation of children is a geographically widespread form of harm that is a typical feature of County Lines criminal activity: drug networks or gangs groom and exploit children and young people to carry drugs, weapons and money for them. Key to identifying potential involvement may be 'missing episodes' when the victim may have been trafficked for the purpose of transporting drugs, weapons or money. Our Madrasah will consider a referral using the Newham pathways or a direct referral using the National Referral mechanism for human trafficking.

4.6 Serious Violence

There are a number of indicators, which may signal that a child is at risk from or involved with serious violent crime. These may include increased absence from Madrasah, a change in friendships, or relationships with older individuals or groups, a significant decline in performance, signs of self-harm or a significant change of attitude or well-being or signs of assault or unexplained injuries. Unexplained gifts or new possessions could also indicate that a child has been approached by, or is involved with, individuals associated with criminal networks or gangs.

4.7 Honour Based Violence

So-called honour-based violence (HBV) encompasses incidents or crimes which have been committed to protect or defend the honour of the family and/or the community including Female Genital Mutilation (FGM), forced marriage and such practices such as breast ironing.

4.7.1 Forced marriage

A forced marriage is one that is entered without the full consent of one or both parties. It is where violence, threats or other forms of coercion is used and is a crime. Our staff understand how to report concerns where this may be an issue.

4.8 Prevention of radicalisation

Children can be vulnerable to extremist ideology and extremism. Protecting children from this risk is similar to protecting them from other forms of harm and abuse. The Counter-Terrorism and Security Act (HMG, 2015) Section 26 places a duty on Madrasahs in the exercise of their functions, to have “due regard to the need to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism”. This duty is known as the PREVENT duty.

It requires Madrasahs to:

- teach a broad and balanced curriculum which promotes spiritual, moral, cultural, mental and physical development of pupils and prepares them for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of life and must promote community cohesion;
- be safe spaces in which children and young people can understand and discuss sensitive topics, including terrorism and the extremist ideas that are part of terrorist ideology, and learn how to challenge these ideas and;
- be mindful of their existing duties to forbid political indoctrination and secure a balanced presentation of political issues.

4.9 Self-Harm and Suicide Risk

Mental health is the concern of the whole community and we recognise that Madrasahs play a key part in this. Our Madrasah wants to develop and protect the emotional wellbeing and resilience of all pupils and staff, as well as provide specific support for those with additional needs. We understand that there are risk factors which increase someone’s vulnerability and protective factors that can promote or strengthen resiliency. The more risk factors present in an individual’s life, the more protective factors or supportive interventions are required to promote further growth and resilience. It is recognised that young people that may be suffering from mental ill-health and are at risk of self-harm or suicide may present in Madrasah as making good progress and achieving well. It is therefore vital that we work in partnership with parents and carers to support the well being of our pupils. It is equally important that parents share any concerns about the well-being of their child with Madrasah, so appropriate support and interventions can be identified and implemented.

Where there are concerns that a child or young person may be self-harming, it will be taken seriously as this may indicate an increased risk of suicide either intentionally or by accident. If a child discloses self-harm or found to be self-harming the Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) or relevant key person will take the time to establish any underlying concerns.

The child will be supported to access services using the appropriate Newham referral pathways.

5. Procedures

All staff members have a duty to identify and respond to suspected and actual abuse or disclosures of harm. Any member of staff, volunteer or visitor to our Madrasah who receives a disclosure or allegation of abuse, or suspects that abuse may have occurred must report it immediately to the Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) or, in their absence, the Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead.

All action is taken in accordance with the following guidance;

- Newham Safeguarding Children Partnership guidelines – Pan-London Child Protection Procedures
- Keeping Children Safe in Education (DfE, 2019)
- Working Together to Safeguard Children (DfE, 2018)

Any staff member or visitor to the Madrasah will refer concerns to the Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) or Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead. Where there is risk of immediate harm, concerns will be referred by telephone using the Newham MASH or the Police. Less urgent concerns or requests for support will be referred via the Newham MASH for consideration of Early Help support as appropriate. Wherever possible, the Madrasah will share any safeguarding concerns, or an intention to refer a child to Children's Social Care, with parents or carers. However, we will not do so where it is felt that to do so could place the child at greater risk of harm or impede a criminal investigation. On occasions, it may be necessary to seek advice from the Newham MASH or the Police in making decisions about when it is appropriate to share information with parents or carers.

If a member of staff continues to have concerns about a child and feels the situation is not being addressed or does not appear to be improving, the staff member concerned should press for re-consideration of the case with the Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) who will escalate the concern as appropriate.

If, for any reason, the Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) or Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead is not available, this should not delay appropriate action being taken. Safeguarding contact details are displayed in the Madrasah to ensure that all staff members have unfettered access to safeguarding support, should it be required. Any individual may refer using the Newham Referral Pathway where there is suspected or actual risk of harm to a child.

When new staff, volunteers or regular visitors join our Madrasah they are informed of the safeguarding arrangements in place, the name of the Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) and deputy and how to share concerns with them.

6. Training

The Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) and deputy undertake child protection training appropriate to the role at every two years as a minimum. The Headteacher, all staff members and governors receive appropriate child protection training that is regularly updated. In addition, all staff members receive safeguarding and child protection updates as required, but at least annually, to provide them with relevant skills and knowledge to safeguard children effectively. Records of any child protection training undertaken is kept for all staff and governors.

The Madrasah ensures that the Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) and deputy also undertake training in inter-agency working and other matters as appropriate.

7. Professional confidentiality

Confidentiality is an issue that needs to be discussed and fully understood by all those working with children, particularly in the context of child protection. A member of staff must never guarantee confidentiality to anyone about a safeguarding concern (including parents / carers or pupils) or promise to keep a secret. In accordance with statutory requirements, where there is a child protection concern, this must be reported to the Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) or deputy and may require further referral and subsequent investigation by appropriate authorities.

Information on individual child protection cases may be shared by the Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) or deputy with other relevant staff members. This will be on a 'need to know' basis only and where it is in the child's best interests to do so.

8. Records and information sharing

Where there are concerns about the safety of a child, the sharing of information in a timely and effective manner between organisations can reduce the risk of harm. Whilst practitioners must have due regard for the Data Protection Act 2018 and the General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR) it is not a barrier to sharing information. Our Madrasah is confident of the processing conditions that allow us to store and share information for safeguarding purposes. This allows us to share information without consent, if it is not possible to gain consent or if to gain consent would place a child at risk.

Well-kept records are essential to good child protection practice. Our Madrasah is clear about the need to record any concern held about a child or children within our Madrasah, the status of such records and when these records should be shared with other agencies.

Any member of staff receiving a disclosure of abuse or noticing signs or indicators of abuse, will record it as soon as possible, noting what was said or seen, if appropriate, using a body map to record, with the date, time and location.

As soon as concerns have been logged, the safeguarding lead flags up the concerns to the members of the Safeguarding Team. They are asked to use the Safeguarding Concern form (Appendix 2). All records will be dated and signed (either manually on a paper record or automatically when a concern is logged using Safeguard Software), with the name printed and will include the action taken. This is then presented to the Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) or deputy, who will decide on the appropriate action and record it accordingly.

Any records related to child protection are kept in an individual child protection file for that child, separate to the pupil file. All child protection records are stored securely and confidentially and will be retained for 25 years after the pupil's date of birth, or until they transfer to another Madrasah or educational setting.

9. Allegations about members of the workforce

The aim of our Madrasah is to provide a safe and supportive environment that secures the well being and best learning outcomes for children. All staff members are made aware of the boundaries of appropriate behaviour and conduct. These matters form part of staff induction and are outlined in the Staff Handbook and Code of Conduct. We do, however recognise that sometimes allegations of abuse are made and when they occur, they are distressing and difficult for all. We also understand that some allegations are genuine and that there are adults who deliberately seek to harm or abuse children. Our Madrasah takes all possible steps to safeguard our children and ensure that the adults in our Madrasah are safe to work with children.

We will always ensure that the procedures outlined in Chapter 7 of the London Child Protection Procedures are adhered to and will seek appropriate advice from the Local Authority Designated Officer (LADO) by telephone 0203 373 3803 or email CPRT.LADO@newham.gov.uk

If an allegation is made or information is received about any member of staff or volunteer who works with children has:

- behaved in a way that has harmed a child, or may have harmed a child; ▪

Possibly committed a criminal offence against or related to a child or

- behaved towards a child or children in a way that indicates they may pose a risk of harm to children.
- an individual has behaved in a way in their personal life that raises safeguarding concerns. These concerns do not need to relate directly to a child.

The member of staff receiving the information should inform the Head Teacher immediately. This includes concerns relating to agency and supply staff. Should an allegation be made against the Headteacher, this will be reported to the Chair of Governors. In the event the Chair of Governors is not contactable the same day, the information must be passed to the Vice Chair. The Head Teacher or Chair of Governors will seek advice from the LADO within one working day. No member of staff will undertake further investigations before seeking advice from the LADO.

Any member of staff or volunteer who does not feel confident to raise their concerns within the Madrasah should contact the LADO directly. Please refer to section 11 of this policy.

The Madrasah has a legal duty to refer to the Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) anyone who has harmed, or poses a risk of harm, to a child, or if there is reason to believe the member of staff has committed one of a number of listed offences, and who has been removed from working (paid or unpaid) in regulated activity, or would have been removed had they not left. The DBS will consider whether to bar the person from regulated activity. If these circumstances arise in relation to a member of staff at our Madrasah, a referral will be made as soon as possible after the resignation or removal of the individual in accordance with advice from the LADO and/or HR.

10. Whistleblowing

Whistleblowing is defined as '*making a disclosure in the public interest*' and occurs when a worker (or member of the wider Madrasah community) raises a concern about danger or illegality that affects others, for example pupils in the Madrasah or members of the public.

All staff members are made aware of the duty to raise concerns about the attitude or actions of staff in line with the Madrasah's Code of Conduct and Whistleblowing policy.

We want everyone to feel able to report any child protection or safeguarding concerns. More information is available called Advice for Whistleblowing in Maintained Madrasahs (DfE 2014). However, for members of staff who feel unable to raise these concerns internally, they can contact the NSPCC whistleblowing helpline on: 0800 028 0285 or email: help@nspcc.org.uk

Parents or others in the wider Madrasah community with concerns can contact the NSPCC general helpline on: 0808 800 5000 (24 hour helpline) or email: help@nspcc.org.uk

Appendix 1 Early Help Offer

http://www.newhamlscb.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2018/02/04892-Pathways_A4-HIRES.pdf

Child protection and safeguarding policy

Appendix 2

Recording Safeguarding Concerns

Full Name of Child

Date of Birth

Class

Nature of worry, concern or disclosure *Please include where you were when the child made a disclosure, what you saw, who else was there and what the child said or did and what you said.*

Time and date of incident:

Was there an injury? Yes/ No Did you see the injury? Yes / No

Describe the injury

Have you filled in the body plan to show where the injury is and its approximate size? Yes /No

Was anyone else with you? If 'Yes' who?

Has this happened before? Yes / No Is 'Yes' did you report the previous incident? Yes / No

Who are you passing this information to?

Name:

Position:

Printed Name:

Role in Madrasah:

signature:

Time form completed:

Child protection and safeguarding policy

Recording Safeguarding Concerns DSL recording form

Form received by

Date:

Time:

Action taken by Designated Safeguarding Lead/s

Please ensure all agencies contacted are listed below

Have Parents been informed? Yes / No

Feedback given to (Please tick as appropriate):

Pastoral team

Child

Person who recorded disclosure

(If No, state reason)

Printed Name:

signature:

Time form completed:

Date: