

The Role of the Designated Person in Our School

The designated person serves as our school's safeguarding champion. They protect students and ensure their wellbeing.

They maintain compliance with educational policies. Their expertise creates a safe learning environment for all.

The role of the Designated Safeguarding Person was specified in the Children Act (2004) to ensure that every organisation had a “named person” for safeguarding children and young people.

The role of the DSL ‘should be given the time, funding, training, resources and support to provide advice and support to other staff on child welfare and child protection matters, to take part in strategy discussions and inter-agency meetings – and/or to support other staff to do so – and to contribute to the assessment of children’

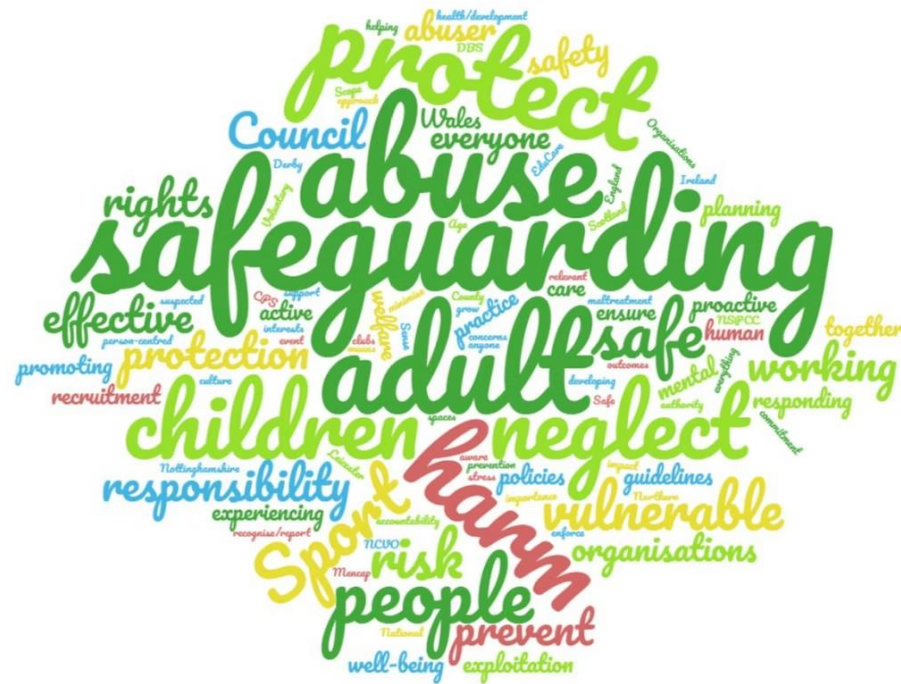
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Children Act 2004





Key Responsibilities of the Designated Person



Safeguarding Students

The primary responsibility of the designated person is to protect children from neglect and abuse. This includes recognising signs of abuse and taking appropriate action to ensure the child's safety.



Building Connections

Liaises between staff, families, and external agencies. Creates a support network around each child. They serve as a point of contact for external agencies, such as social services, the police and child protection organisations. This involves collaborating with these agencies to ensure a coordinated response to safeguarding concerns.



Documentation

Maintains confidential records of concerns. Ensures proper reporting protocols are followed. They are also involved in developing, implementing and reviewing school policies relating to child protection and safeguarding. They ensure that these policies are in line with national guidelines and best practice.



Staff Development

The designated safeguarding officer provided training to staff on safeguarding procedures, ensuring that all school staff understand their responsibilities in protecting the children in our care. This includes, training on recognising signs of abuse, reporting procedures and promoting a safe school environment.

The Process of How It Works in Our School



Identification

Any member of staff who has concerns about a child's safety or well-being is required to act upon it. This may involve recognising signs of physical, emotional, sexual abuse, neglect, or other indicators of risk.



Reporting

Staff members must report any safeguarding concerns to the designated safeguarding lead. This report should include specific details about the concern, such as observations, discussions, behaviours, or a disclosure made by a child.

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Assessment

the safeguarding officer will assess the reported concern to determine the level of risk. This may involve gathering additional information and consulting with relevant staff or external agencies as needed. In some cases, a formal investigation may be initiated.



Collaboration

If the concern indicates that a child may be at risk of significant harm, the safeguarding officer may make a referral to external agencies, such as social services or the police. This process typically involves completing a referral form and following established protocols.



Support

Whilst the investigation is ongoing, the school may provide support to the child, ensuring their safety and well-being. This could involve counselling services, adjustments in the school environment, or other interventions. All safeguarding concerns are actions that are taken, documented, and stored securely by data protection and regulations. Confidentiality is maintained to protect the identities of those involved. In addition to responding to concerns, schools actively promote a safe environment through anti-bullying programs, internet safety education and creating an inclusive culture.

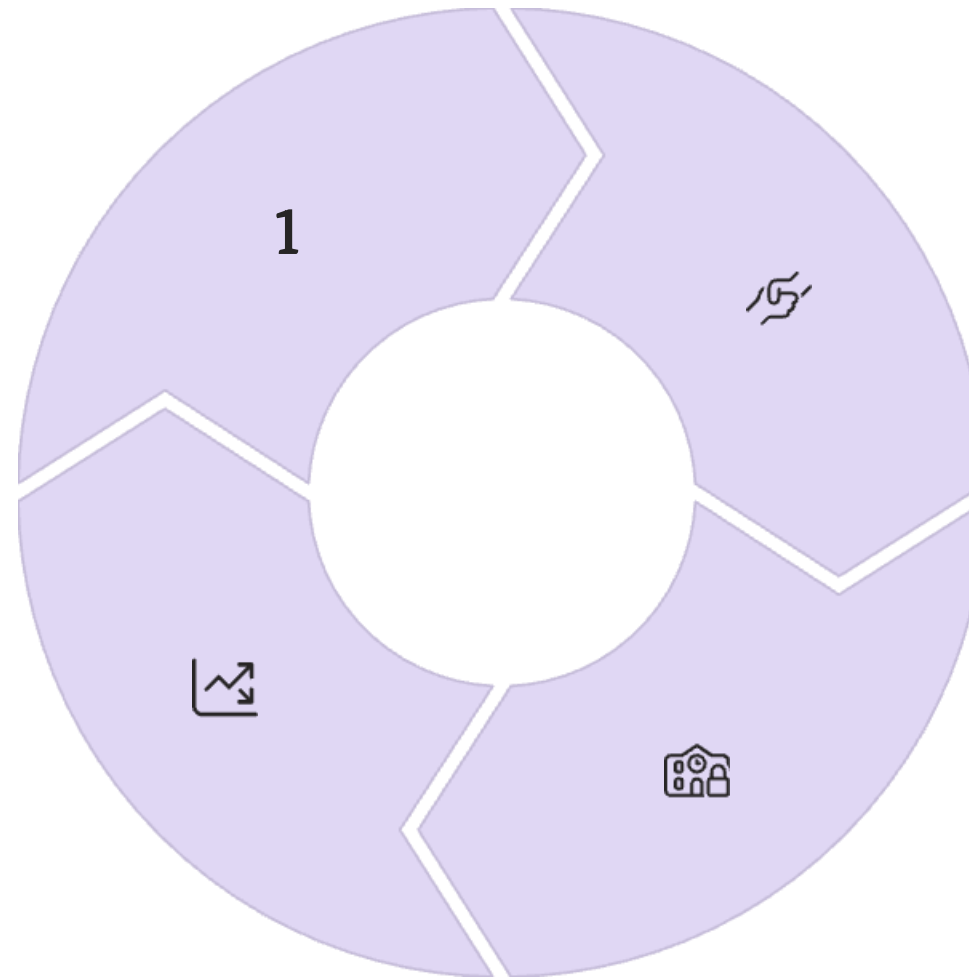
Conclusion and Importance of This Role

Student Safety.

The role of the designated safeguarding officer is vital in safeguarding children and promoting their well-being.

Central Point of Contact.

As the designated individual for safeguarding issues, the DSO streamlines communication between staff, student, parents and external agencies, facilitating a coordinated response to safeguarding concerns.



Prevention and Early Intervention.

By actively monitoring student welfare and identifying risks early, the DSO can implement preventive measures and interventions that protect children and support their development.

Collaboration with External Agencies.

The DSO works closely with social services, the police and other organisations to ensure a comprehensive approach to safeguarding, facilitating referrals and sharing information as needed.

References

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