

## **Harmful Sexual Behaviour**

### **Appendix to Behaviour Policy**

Yorkshire Endeavour Academy Trust has a zero-tolerance approach to any harmful sexual behaviour (HSB) involving children and acknowledges that it could be occurring at schools and in our communities. We are proactive in our approach to assessing prevalence, responding to incidents and challenging and changing behaviour. Schools have a statutory duty to safeguarding the children in their setting. We work together to foster an environment that creates healthy relationships for children.

Our approach encourages healthy relationships and works to prevent harmful sexual behaviour. We provide high quality education within the curriculum to reduce the likelihood of incidents of HSB occurring. We use the RSHE/PSHCE curriculum to help educate students about these issues as well as regularly reminding and promoting the reporting routes within our schools to ensure that children know what to do should an incident occur. All children identify two trusted adults in school and are reminded that they can talk to their chosen adults (or any other adult in school) if they are worried. We remind children of their right to safety and encourage them to make their trusted adults aware if other children are making them feel uncomfortable (bullying and / or child on child abuse / harmful sexual abuse).

Allegations of a pupil demonstrating Harmful Sexual Behaviour and/or child on child abuse are taken seriously and dealt with in a fair and consistent manner that provides effective protection for the victim and supports the person about whom the allegation has been made. Our approach is to treat everything as a safeguarding incident in the first instance - we distinguish between behaviours that are exploratory and part of healthy age and ability appropriate development and those that may be harmful. Any incidents of HSB are recorded using the 'Sexual Behaviour Reporting Form', which is uploaded to the online CPOMS system.

All allegations will be dealt with in accordance with the Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy and Procedure. The school will, in most cases, engage with both the victim and the alleged perpetrator's parents when there has been a report of HSB/Child on Child abuse, unless to do so will heighten the risk to the victim/alleged perpetrator. All parties involved will be provided with appropriate support and guidance and we will carefully consider what information is shared with respective parents to ensure confidentiality is maintained. Every effort will be made to ensure confidentiality is maintained while an investigation is underway. Referrals to Children's Social Care/Police will be made as appropriate, in line with the Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy.

We provide regular opportunities for school staff to understand what HSB might look like and what they should do in the event of a report. We do this by providing training and regular updates where possible and using the NSPCC Traffic Light tool (Hackett Continuum):

<https://learning.nspcc.org.uk/media/2685/responding-to-children-who-display-sexualised-behaviour-guide.pdf>

In addition to the above, further information is available from the North Yorkshire Safeguarding Children Partnership:

<https://www.safeguardingchildren.co.uk/professionals/procedures-practice-guidance-and-one-minute-guides/children-and-young-people-who-display-sexualised-behaviour/>

and from the UK Council for Internet Safety:

[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/65d62b02188d770011038855/UKCIS\\_sharing\\_nudes\\_and\\_semi\\_nudes\\_advice\\_for\\_education\\_settings\\_Web\\_accessible.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/65d62b02188d770011038855/UKCIS_sharing_nudes_and_semi_nudes_advice_for_education_settings_Web_accessible.pdf)