

7 The Ride – Unit Safeguarding Policy

All staff at The Ride attend Child Protection/Safeguarding training at least once every 12 months. All new staff complete Introduction to Child Protection within the 1st 3 months of starting – earlier wherever possible, with additional ongoing Child protection courses, yearly as a required expectation. Hounslow has a designated Safeguarding rolling training programme that runs courses throughout the year

(H.S.C.B). In relation to all aspects of safeguarding children. Care staff attend at least 3 courses yearly (in addition to all Mandatory training) All longer term staff have undertaken the level 3 course in safeguarding

- The Ride staff work together with Hounslow’s safeguarding team and the L.A.D.O for Hounslow
- Manager sits on MASE and will present any young person where there are concerns in regard to CSE All staff have attended CSE training –B wise to Sexual exploitation
- Staff have close links with Hounslow Police CSE lead and missing persons unit

In regard to minimising and when necessary, responding to Child Sexual Exploitation - Expectations of staff at the Ride:

- Actively get to know the young people, their friends and associates and be aware of where and with whom they spend their social time.
- Be actively looking for any changes in character of circumstances. Refer to Hounslow’s SAFEGUARD mnemonic.
- Monitor car details if suspicious of CCE, CSE. Take details of number plate, make and model of car and inform driver of age of young person (if safe to do so at the time)
- Notify the relevant manager immediately if they have concerns about a young person in regard to any child protection concerns and/or possible sexual exploitation concerns. □ Work closely with the child’s social worker as well as all other involved agencies (School, Health)
- *1 to 1 session undertaken with Young People focusing on ‘staying safe’ and ‘Healthy Relationships’ as part of key work expectations.*
- Complete Individual Health and Safety risk assessments for all young people – which are then reviewed regularly and updated/amended where necessary.
- Manager to liaise with young person’s social worker together with Hounslow’s safeguarding team in regard to any further action to be taken. (In regard to C.S.E specifically, the CSE police co-ordinator).
- Manager to complete a Regulation 40 report to notify OFSTED, where there are any child protection concerns.

- Manager /Staff to notify the police and pass on any relevant information. Stating “Operation Make safe” when passing on any information to police – in order that the specifically allocated officers receive the information.
- All staff to adhere to London Child Protection procedures and Hounslow’s Child Sexual Exploitation Strategy 2015

Young people linked to and exploited by gang associates - Expectations of staff at The Ride:

Staff and the manager at The Ride will follow the same steps as above.

In addition to this:

- Staff attend training on safeguarding children affected by Gang Activity
- Manager sits on Brentford ward panel every 3 months to maintain links with the local police and gain information in regard to gang activity within Hounslow and neighbouring boroughs.
- Staff to raise any concerns immediately with the manager
- Staff to identify additional positive activities for young person to participate in.

Individual Emotional resilience work to be prioritised

E-safety / online abuse / grooming - Expectations of Staff at The Ride

- Staff to be aware of possible risks to Young People in regard to Internet usage these include Web Cams; Mobile phones; inappropriate contact (family members); grooming; instant messaging and photo / video sharing; chat rooms; social networking; gaming; cyber bullying.
- To have 1-1 session with young person on admission re e-safety, young person to sign acceptable use agreement
- To undertake e-safety training
- To actively take an interest in Young People’s online activities and habits
- To participate and learn alongside young people when using computers in communal area.
- Have continuous conversations with Young People in regard to online safety.
- 1 to 1 session with Young People focusing on e-safety if necessary
- To follow unit policy addressing cyber-bullying

Missing Children; Expectations of staff at The Ride

- To follow the joint protocol with police – The Philomena Protocol: <https://cscp.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/01/Joint-Responsibility-Agreement-Final.pdf>
- To follow Children Missing from Home and Care Policy and Protocol: <https://www.mertonscp.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/04/Merton->

Children-Missing-from-Home-and-Care-Policy-and-Protocol-August-Update-1.pdf

- Identify pre-existing risks at the start of a Young Person's placement at The Ride with Social Worker – Ask Social worker to complete missing risk assessment as part of Placement Agreement meeting.
- Agree with Social worker actions to be taken to keep Young Person safe.
- Complete pre incident risk assessment at beginning of young person's placement.
- Ensure Grab packs for all Young People are up to date and kept on file with an up-to-date photograph – within first week of admission to the unit initially.
- When a Young Person is leaving the unit, staff to gain as much information as possible in regard to where they are going, with whom and their expected time of return and their intended method of travel. Especially if the young person is known to be at risk of going missing – staff to note down clothes worn by the Y.P on leaving in the logbook.
- Where there is a higher level of risk a safety plan will be created in conjunction with the Young Person and social worker to identify strategies to support them to stay safe.
- Text messages are to be sent to Young People if they do not answer their phone or if this is a preferable method of contact
- To focus on the welfare of the Young Person at all times throughout and on their return no matter what time of night, to ensure staff communicate with the young person in a warm and welcoming way.
- Ensure up to date contact details are kept on file of Young Persons family, friends and associates.
- To call the above (and local hospitals) before reporting Young Person as missing.
- Manager to request a Professionals meeting or for a Young Person's review to be brought forward if a Young Person is missing frequently or at high risk of exploitation.
- All staff to be aware of and up to date with Policies and resources online via trix.

Young people linked to and vulnerable to Radicalisation - expectations of staff at The Ride

- All staff to attend WRAP (Prevent) training.
- Be actively looking for any changes in character of circumstances in a young person, especially if young people are changing their style of dress, interested in extremist ideology, in possession of materials or symbols associated with an extremist cause.
- Any concerns regarding a young person should be raised with the manager and the Prevent Lead

- Manager to complete a Person Vulnerable to Radicalisation (VTR) Referral Form and to call a professionals meeting to discuss concerns.
- Staff to refer to LSCB child protection policy - Safeguarding Children Exposed to Extremist Ideology

Professional Boundaries; Expectations of staff at the Ride:

- Ensure that any accounts on Social Networking sites they use are appropriately secured
- Not accept requests from young people to view or be part of their Social Network and explain to the Young Person why we cannot do this
- Ensure that if any personal technology is brought into the working environment, it is kept safe and secure and is the responsibility of the owner at all times. No photographs of Young People are to be taken on personal technology
- To not leave a young person unsupervised with any personal technology
- To report any concerns in regard to inappropriate or unusual behaviour of a colleague to the manager immediately