

Appendix 6

Peer on peer abuse

Safeguarding update - September 2nd 2019 (in line with new publication of 'Keeping children safe in education' September 2019 release)

Peer on peer abuse

Children can abuse other children.

▶ Peer on peer abuse can include (but is not limited to):

- **Bullying** (including cyberbullying)
- **Sexual violence** (e.g. rape, assault by penetration & sexual assault)
- **Sexual harassment** (e.g. sexual comments, remarks, jokes & online)
- **Physical Abuse** (e.g. hitting, kicking, shaking, biting etc)
- **Sexting** (sending, receiving, or forwarding sexually explicit messages, photographs, or images)
- **Upskirting** (taking a picture under a persons clothing without consent - intention to view genitals or buttocks)
- **Initiation/ hazing** (initiation rituals/ acts - behaviour involving humiliation/ harassment or abuse)

Bullying

- ▶ Bullying is:
- ▶ Ongoing harmful behaviour over a period of time (e.g. not one off events) (STOP - Several Times On Purpose)
- ▶ Different from random acts of aggression (e.g. a one-off physical altercation)
- ▶ Not just physical violence - can also include many different sorts of behaviour including intimidation, name calling, teasing and isolating etc.
- ▶ **CYBERBULLYING** - Cyberbullying is using the internet, email, online games or any digital technology to threaten, tease, upset or humiliate someone else.

Sexual Violence

- ▶ Children can, and sometimes do, abuse their peers sexually.
- ▶ Sexual violence is described as (Sexual Offences Act 2003):

RAPE - A person (A) commits an offence of rape if: he intentionally penetrates the vagina, anus or mouth of another person (B) with his penis, B does not consent to the penetration.

ASSAULT BY PENETRATION - A person (A) commits an offence if: s/he intentionally penetrates the vagina or anus of another person (B) with a part of her/his body or anything else. B does not give consent.

SEXUAL ASSAULT - A person (A) commits an offence of sexual assault if: s/he intentionally touches another person (B), the touching is sexual. B does not consent to the touching.

What is consent? Having the freedom and capacity to choose. Consent can be may be given for one type of sexual activity but not another and conditions may also be applied (e.g. wearing of a condom). **CONSENT CAN BE WITHDRAWN AT ANY TIME. (Remember - 16 years old to consent - however a 13-15 year old can mutually consent to someone in the same age range).**

NOBODY UNDER 13 CAN CONSENT

Sexual Harassment

- ▶ ‘Unwanted conduct of a sexual nature’ that can occur online or offline.
- ▶ Sexual harassment is likely to violate a child's dignity, and/or make them feel intimidated, degraded or humiliated and/or create a hostile, offensive or sexualised environment.
- ▶ Sexual harassment can include:
 - Sexual comments (e.g. telling sexual stories, making sexual remarks about clothing/ appearance, calling someone sexualised names);
 - Sexual ‘jokes’ or taunting;
 - Physical behaviour, such as deliberately brushing against someone, interfering with someone's clothes and displaying pictures/ photos or drawings of a sexual nature;
 - Online sexual harassment (e.g. non-consensual sharing of sexual images/videos, unwanted sexual comments and message - including social media)
 - Upskirting

Physical Abuse

- ▶ Physical abuse is when someone hurts or harms a child or young person on purpose. It includes:
 - ▶ hitting with hands or objects
 - ▶ slapping and punching
 - ▶ Kicking
 - ▶ Shaking
 - ▶ Throwing
 - ▶ Poisoning
 - ▶ burning and scalding
 - ▶ biting and scratching
 - ▶ breaking bones
 - ▶ drowning.
- ▶ It's important to remember that physical abuse is any way of intentionally causing physical harm to a child or young person.

Sexting

- ▶ Sexting is when someone shares sexual, naked or semi-naked images or videos of themselves or others, or sends sexually explicit messages.
- ▶ They can be sent using mobiles, tablets, smartphones, laptops - any device that allows you to share media and messages.
- ▶ A young person is breaking the law if they:
 - ▶ take an explicit photo or video of themselves or a friend
 - ▶ share an explicit image or video of a child, even if it's shared between children of the same age
 - ▶ possess, download or store an explicit image or video of a child, even if the child gave their permission for it to be created.

Upskirting

New -
KCSIE 2019

- ▶ Typically involves:
 - Taking a photo under a persons clothing without them knowing
 - Intention of viewing their genitals or buttocks
 - Done to obtain sexual gratification, or cause the victim humiliation, distress of alarm
- **UPSKIRITNG is now a CRIMINAL OFFENCE**

Initiation/ Hazing

- ▶ **Initiation** - The form or ceremony by which a person is introduced into any society; mode of entrance into an organized body.

- ▶ **Hazing** - Hazing is defined as an abusive, often humiliating form of initiation into or affiliation with a group, including: Any willful action taken or situation created which recklessly or intentionally endangers the mental or physical health of another.