Amberleigh Care
because we care

Polisi Diogelu ac Amddiffyn Plant

Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy

Golfa

September 2026

Policy Issued: September 2024

Policy History		
Policy Date	**Summary of Change**	**Review Date**
01.09.2024	None – Initial Version	01.09.2025
01.09.2025	Reviewed Formatting changes made Artificial intelligence – AI	01.09.2026
01.09.2026	Formatting changes made Legislative review completed. Wales Safeguarding Procedures references updated. Artificial Intelligence safeguarding section expanded.	01.09.2027

Policy Author: Sioned Davies (Headteacher)

Reviewed: Kevin Gallagher (Proprietor)

1. Statement of Commitment
Amberleigh Therapeutic School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare, wellbeing and rights of all children and young people. We expect all staff, volunteers, contractors and visitors to share this commitment.
Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility and forms an integral part of the school's therapeutic and educational approach. We recognise that many learners have experienced trauma, attachment difficulties, adverse childhood experiences (ACEs), social, emotional and mental health needs, disrupted education and involvement with statutory services. Safeguarding practice therefore adopts a trauma-informed, therapeutic and child-centred approach.
The welfare of the child is paramount. All decisions and actions taken by the school will place the child's best interests, rights, wishes and feelings at the centre of safeguarding practice.
Amberleigh Therapeutic School is committed to:

- Safeguarding and promoting the welfare of all learners.
- Creating a safe, supportive and inclusive environment.
- Identifying concerns early and responding promptly.
- Working collaboratively with families and partner agencies.
- Enabling every learner to achieve positive outcomes.
- Upholding the rights of children under the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC).

2. Purpose
This policy aims to:

- Safeguard and promote the welfare of all learners.
- Protect learners from abuse, neglect, exploitation and harm.
- Ensure effective procedures for recognising and reporting concerns.
- Clarify safeguarding roles and responsibilities.
- Support vulnerable learners.
- Promote a culture of vigilance, professional curiosity and accountability.
- Ensure compliance with Welsh legislation and guidance.

3. Legislative and Guidance Framework
This policy has been developed in accordance with:

- Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act 2014.
- Keeping Learners Safe (Welsh Government Guidance 275/2021). [gov.wales], [gov.wales]
- Wales Safeguarding Procedures and associated Practice Guides. [socialcare.wales], [safeguarding.wales]
- Children (Abolition of Defence of Reasonable Punishment) (Wales) Act 2020.
- Additional Learning Needs and Education Tribunal (Wales) Act 2018.
- Violence Against Women, Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence (Wales) Act 2015.
- Human Rights Act 1998.
- Data Protection Act 2018 and UK GDPR.
- United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC).
- Education (Independent School Standards) (Wales) Regulations 2024 (as amended).

Definition of Safeguarding
Safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children includes:

- Protecting children from abuse, neglect and exploitation.
- Preventing impairment of health or development.
- Ensuring children grow up with safe and effective care.
- Taking action to enable all children to achieve the best possible outcomes.
- Providing help and support as soon as concerns emerge.

Child protection is part of safeguarding and refers to the activity undertaken to protect specific children who are suffering, or are likely to suffer, significant harm. This includes harm occurring within the home, outside the home and online.

4. Safeguarding Principles
Amberleigh Therapeutic School adopts a rights-based, child-centred and therapeutic approach to safeguarding.
Our safeguarding responsibilities are delivered through:
Prevention
Providing a safe environment where learners are protected, supported and taught how to keep themselves safe.
Protection
Identifying concerns at the earliest opportunity and acting promptly in accordance with Wales Safeguarding Procedures.
Support
Providing appropriate intervention, pastoral care and multi-agency support to learners and families.
In all safeguarding activity:

- The child's welfare is paramount.
- The voice of the child will be heard and recorded.
- Children's rights will be respected.
- Safeguarding concerns will always be taken seriously.

5. Safeguarding Culture
Amberleigh Therapeutic School is committed to maintaining a safeguarding culture characterised by:

- Vigilance.
- Professional curiosity.
- Transparency.
- Accountability.
- Reflective practice.
- Respectful challenge.
- Multi-agency collaboration.

All members of the school community share responsibility for safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children.

6. Safeguarding Structure
Proprietor
Kevin Gallagher
Headteacher and Designated Safeguarding Person (DSP)
Sioned Davies
Deputy Designated Safeguarding Person (Deputy DSP)
Alison Adames
Reporting Pathway
Staff Member → DSP → Deputy DSP → Proprietor
Where concerns relate to the DSP or Headteacher, reports must be made directly to the Proprietor.
Out of Hours and Holiday Cover
Where both the DSP and Deputy DSP are unavailable, safeguarding concerns must be reported directly to the Proprietor. Safeguarding arrangements remain in place during educational visits, off-site activities and extended provision.

7. Prevention and Early Intervention

The school recognises that safeguarding begins with positive relationships and effective early intervention.
The school will:

- Provide a safe and supportive environment.
- Promote emotional wellbeing and resilience.
- Encourage learners to discuss concerns.
- Deliver Relationships and Sexuality Education (RSE).
- Teach personal safety and online safety.
- Promote children's rights.
- Work positively with families.
- Identify emerging needs early.
- Make timely referrals where support is needed.
- Maintain a trauma-informed approach throughout school life.

8. Safeguarding in a Therapeutic Setting
Amberleigh Therapeutic School recognises that behaviour may communicate distress, trauma or unmet need.
Staff will:

- Build safe and trusting relationships.
- Use therapeutic approaches to understand behaviour.
- Promote emotional regulation and resilience.
- Recognise the long-term impact of trauma.
- Respond proportionately to vulnerability.
- Balance support and safeguarding responsibilities.

The school's therapeutic model supports prevention, emotional wellbeing and positive safeguarding outcomes.

9. Learner Voice and Participation
Listening to learners is fundamental to safeguarding.
The school will:

- Seek learners' views regarding safety and wellbeing.
- Use learner questionnaires and feedback activities.
- Encourage participation in safeguarding developments.
- Ensure learners know where and how to seek help.
- Act upon concerns raised by learners.

Learners' views will contribute to safeguarding evaluation and school improvement planning.

10. Roles and Responsibilities
Proprietor
The Proprietor will:

- Ensure safeguarding arrangements are effective.
- Review this policy annually.
- Monitor safeguarding practice and compliance.
- Ensure sufficient safeguarding resources are available.
- Ensure appropriate safeguarding training is completed.
- Monitor safer recruitment procedures.
- Ensure online safety forms part of the whole-school safeguarding approach.
- Ensure procedures exist for reporting, recording and managing low-level concerns and allegations.
- Monitor safeguarding action plans arising from audits, reviews and inspections
- Act as case manager where allegations concern the Headteacher.
- Read and maintain awareness of Keeping Learners Safe. [gov.wales], [amberleighcare.co.uk]

Headteacher
The Headteacher will:

- Implement this policy.
- Promote a strong safeguarding culture.
- Ensure safeguarding procedures are followed.
- Ensure all staff receive safeguarding induction.
- Manage low-level concerns.
- Support multi-agency working.
- Monitor safeguarding systems across the school.

Designated Safeguarding Person (DSP)
The DSP is the strategic lead for safeguarding and child protection.
The DSP will:

- Lead safeguarding practice across the school.
- Act as the first point of contact for concerns.
- Make referrals to Children's Services, Police, Channel or other agencies.
- Attend and contribute to Child Protection Conferences, Review Conferences, Core Groups, Strategy Meetings and Multi-Disciplinary Team meetings.
- Produce written reports where required.
- Maintain secure safeguarding records.
- Monitor vulnerable learners.
- Oversee online safety, filtering and monitoring.
- Ensure safe transfer of child protection records.
- Liaise with external agencies and professionals.
- Keep written records of concerns even where those concerns do not immediately meet referral thresholds.
- Ensure safeguarding files contain decision-making rationale, actions taken and outcomes.
- Ensure safeguarding records are reviewed regularly to identify patterns or emerging risk.
- Support staff with safeguarding matters.
- Ensure all EWC registrants understand their safeguarding responsibilities.
- Ensure learners receive support from an appropriate adult when required during police investigations or safeguarding processes.

The DSP will be provided with sufficient time, training and resources to fulfil these duties.

Deputy DSP
The Deputy DSP will:

- Support the DSP.
- Act in the DSP's absence.
- Undertake safeguarding training appropriate to the role.
- Support implementation of this policy.

All Staff and Volunteers
All staff and volunteers will:

- Understand that safeguarding is everybody's responsibility.
- Know the identity of the DSP and Deputy DSP.
- Review Keeping Learners Safe annually.
- Sign annual safeguarding declarations where required.
- Understand how to report concerns.
- Maintain professional boundaries.
- Attend safeguarding training.

- Record concerns accurately and promptly.
- Support the welfare, wellbeing and rights of learners.
- Understand risks associated with artificial intelligence, deepfakes, online impersonation and emerging technologies and report concerns promptly.
- Read and adhere to relevant safeguarding policies and procedures.

Staff will understand risks associated with:

- Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE).
- Child Criminal Exploitation (CCE).
- County Lines.
- Domestic Abuse.
- Coercive and Controlling Behaviour.
- Harmful Sexual Behaviour.
- Child-on-child abuse.
- Radicalisation and Extremism.
- Serious Violence.
- Online Grooming and Exploitation.
- LGBTQ+ targeted abuse.
- Technology-enabled and AI-enabled harm.

11. Personal Mobile Phones and Recording Devices

Staff may bring personal mobile phones onto site for personal use.
However:

- Personal devices must not be used to photograph, film or record learners.
- Personal devices should not be used whilst supervising learners.
- Images and recordings of learners may only be captured using approved school equipment and systems.

12. Safeguarding Training

All Staff

All staff will receive:

- Safeguarding induction prior to working unsupervised with learners.
- Annual safeguarding updates.
- Annual Prevent awareness training.
- Annual online safety training.
- Child-on-child abuse and harmful sexual behaviour training.
- Training relating to ALN, trauma and vulnerability.
- Annual review of *Keeping Learners Safe*.
- Annual review of Wales Safeguarding Procedures and relevant Practice Guides.

Teaching Staff and Senior Leaders

Teaching staff and senior leaders will additionally undertake:

- Group B Safeguarding Training delivered face-to-face by Mark Parry Consultancy or another approved safeguarding provider.
- Refresher safeguarding training in accordance with Mid and West Wales Safeguarding Board expectations.
- Wales Safeguarding Procedures Practitioner Training.

Designated Safeguarding Person and Deputy DSP

The DSP and Deputy DSP will maintain training appropriate to their safeguarding leadership responsibilities, including:

- Advanced Safeguarding Training.
- Wales Safeguarding Procedures Practitioner Training.
- Child Protection Conference and Core Group Training.
- Safer Recruitment Training.
- Prevent and Channel Referral Training.

Training records will be maintained centrally and monitored by the Headteacher and Proprietor.

13. Duty to Report
Under Section 130 of the Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act 2014, relevant practitioners have a duty to report concerns where a child may be at risk of abuse, neglect or harm. [socialcare.wales], [safeguarding.wales]
Any member of staff who has safeguarding concerns must immediately inform the DSP.
No member of staff should assume another person has reported the concern.
Staff may make a direct referral to Children's Services where immediate risk exists and must inform the DSP as soon as possible thereafter.

14. Recognising Abuse and Harm
Safeguarding concerns may include:

- Physical Abuse.
- Emotional Abuse.
- Sexual Abuse.
- Neglect.
- Domestic Abuse.
- Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE).
- Child Criminal Exploitation (CCE).
- County Lines.
- Harmful Sexual Behaviour.
- Child-on-child abuse.
- Online Abuse and Exploitation.
- Radicalisation and Extremism.
- Serious Violence.
- Grooming.
- Mental Health Vulnerability.
- Technology-assisted abuse.

Preventing Radicalisation

Amberleigh Therapeutic School recognises its responsibility under the Prevent Duty to have due regard to preventing people from being drawn into terrorism. Concerns regarding radicalisation, extremism or terrorism-related risks will be referred to the DSP and managed in accordance with safeguarding procedures and Channel referral processes.

Staff will remain alert to the impact of domestic abuse, coercive control and Violence Against Women, Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence (VAWDASV) upon children and young people.

Children may be at risk through both direct and indirect exposure to domestic abuse.

15. If a Child Makes a Disclosure
Staff must:

- Listen carefully.
- Remain calm.
- Reassure the child.
- Avoid leading questions.
- Never promise confidentiality.

- Record the child's words accurately.
- Inform the DSP immediately.

Staff must not investigate concerns themselves.

16. Child-on-Child Abuse

Amberleigh Therapeutic School recognises that children can abuse other children.
This may include:

- Sexual harassment.
- Sexual violence.
- Harmful sexual behaviour.
- Bullying.
- Physical abuse.
- Emotional abuse.
- Online abuse.
- Sharing nude or semi-nude images.

All concerns will be taken seriously and managed in accordance with safeguarding procedures.

17. Children with Additional Learning Needs (ALN)

Learners with ALN may face additional barriers to recognising, disclosing or reporting abuse.
Staff will remain particularly vigilant and ensure safeguarding responses are accessible and responsive to individual needs.

18. Looked After, Care Experienced and Vulnerable Learners

The school recognises that learners who are looked after, care experienced or supported by social workers may be at increased safeguarding risk.
The DSP will work closely with:

- Social Workers.
- Children's Services.
- Residential Care Providers.
- Foster Carers.
- Health Professionals.
- Advocacy Services.
- Placing Local Authorities.

Safeguarding and support plans will be reviewed regularly.

19. Virtual School Heads

The school recognises the role of Virtual School Heads in promoting attendance, attainment and progress for learners with social workers.
The DSP will work collaboratively with Virtual School Heads and partner professionals where appropriate.

20. Online Safety, Filtering and Monitoring

Online safety is an integral part of safeguarding and forms part of the school's whole-school safeguarding approach.

The Proprietor, Headteacher and DSP will ensure that effective filtering and monitoring systems are implemented, maintained and reviewed regularly across school networks, devices and digital platforms.

These arrangements will:

- Prevent access to illegal, harmful or inappropriate content.
- Support identification of safeguarding concerns.

- Enable the detection of online abuse, exploitation, radicalisation and grooming.
- Support monitoring of emerging online risks.
- Generate safeguarding alerts where concerns arise.
- Be reviewed following safeguarding incidents, technological developments or changes to national guidance.

Staff must report any safeguarding concerns arising from online activity immediately to the DSP.

Online safety remains a core safeguarding responsibility shared by all members of the school community.

21. Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Emerging Technologies

Amberleigh Therapeutic School recognises the safeguarding risks associated with artificial intelligence, emerging technologies and digital platforms.

Staff will remain alert to the potential misuse of artificial intelligence, including:

- Creation or sharing of harmful, misleading or inappropriate content.
- Deepfake images, audio or video.
- Online impersonation.
- Grooming and exploitation facilitated through AI tools.
- Cyberbullying, harassment and intimidation.
- Exposure to harmful, inappropriate or misleading AI-generated material.
- Academic misuse and manipulation.
- Collection, storage or misuse of personal information.

Learners will receive age-appropriate guidance regarding the safe, responsible and ethical use of artificial intelligence technologies.

Staff will receive regular updates and training regarding emerging online risks, including those associated with:

- Artificial intelligence.
- Social media platforms.
- Online gaming environments.
- Encrypted communication platforms.
- Emerging digital technologies.

Any safeguarding concern involving artificial intelligence or emerging technologies will be managed in accordance with:

- This Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy.

- The Online Safety Policy.
- Relevant Wales Safeguarding Procedures.
- Welsh Government safeguarding guidance.

22. Missing Learners
All episodes of missing education, missing from care and missing from home will be treated as safeguarding concerns and recorded appropriately.

All staff will be familiar with the Missing Learner Procedure.
Where necessary the school will liaise with:
- Parents and carers.
- Social Workers.
- Placing Authorities.
- Police.
- Other relevant agencies.

The school recognises that children missing education may be at increased risk of abuse, neglect, exploitation, criminal exploitation and radicalisation.

23. Physical Intervention and Restrictive Practice
The school is committed to reducing restrictive practices.
Physical intervention will only be used:
- As a last resort.
- To prevent injury.
- To prevent serious harm.
- To maintain safety.

All incidents will be recorded, monitored and reviewed.

24. Daily Safeguarding Oversight
Safeguarding concerns, welfare observations and emerging vulnerabilities may be discussed through daily briefing processes to:
- Support information sharing.
- Identify patterns of concern.
- Inform early intervention.
- Coordinate support for learners.

Information sharing will remain proportionate and confidential.

25. Allegations Against Staff
Any concern involving staff, volunteers, visitors or contractors must be reported immediately to the Headteacher.
Where concerns relate to the Headteacher, they must be reported directly to the Proprietor.
All allegations will be managed in accordance with Welsh Government guidance and safeguarding procedures.

26. Low-Level Concerns
The school promotes an open and transparent safeguarding culture.
Low-level concerns may involve behaviour that:
- Is inconsistent with the Staff Code of Conduct.
- Does not meet the threshold for a formal allegation.
- Creates concern regarding professional boundaries.

All concerns will be:
- Reported.

- Recorded.
- Reviewed.
- Monitored for emerging patterns.

27. Professional Challenge
Staff are expected to exercise professional curiosity and respectful challenge where they believe a child remains at risk.
Where disagreement exists between professionals, escalation procedures will be followed.

28. Confidentiality and Information Sharing
Information sharing is essential to effective safeguarding.
Information will:
- Be shared on a need-to-know basis.
- Be stored securely.
- Comply with Data Protection legislation.
- Be shared where necessary to protect children from harm.

Concerns about confidentiality must never prevent safeguarding action.

Staff must never promise confidentiality to a learner.

Information will only be shared with those who need to know in order to safeguard and support the learner.

29. Record Keeping
The DSP will maintain secure records of all safeguarding concerns, including concerns that do not meet referral thresholds.
Records will:
- Be factual and contemporaneous.
- Include actions taken and outcomes.
- Be stored separately from educational records.
- Be retained in accordance with statutory requirements.

Where a learner transfers school:
- Child protection records will be transferred securely and without delay.
- Transfers will be documented and recorded.

Child protection records will be retained and disposed of in accordance with the school's records retention schedule, data protection requirements and relevant safeguarding guidance.

30. Safer Recruitment
Amberleigh Therapeutic School is committed to safer recruitment.
Appropriate checks will be completed for staff, volunteers and contractors, including:
- Enhanced DBS checks.
- Identity verification.
- Employment history checks.
- Right to work checks.
- References.
- Qualification checks where appropriate.

The school will maintain an accurate and up-to-date Single Central Record. [gov.wales]

31. Site Security and Visitors
All visitors must:
- Sign in and out.

- Wear visitor identification.
- Follow safeguarding expectations.
- Remain supervised where appropriate.

Learner safety will remain paramount at all times.

32. Multi-Agency Working

The school recognises that effective safeguarding depends upon strong partnership working.
The school will work collaboratively with:

- Powys Children's Services.
- Dyfed-Powys Police.
- CAMHS.
- Educational Psychology Services.
- Education Welfare Services.
- Health Professionals.
- Advocacy Services.
- Foster Carers.
- Residential Care Providers.
- Placing Authorities.
- Virtual School Heads.
- Other safeguarding partners.

The school will actively participate in safeguarding meetings, assessments and planning processes.

33. Safeguarding Education and SchoolBeat

Learners will receive safeguarding education through:

- Relationships and Sexuality Education (RSE).
- Personal and Social Education.
- Online Safety Education.
- Therapeutic Interventions.
- Assemblies and Awareness Activities.
- SchoolBeat Programme engagement.
- Learners will receive education on the safe, ethical and responsible use of artificial intelligence, digital technologies and online platforms as part of the wider safeguarding curriculum.

Learners will also have access to age-appropriate safeguarding materials, including the school's **Keeping You Safe** guidance.

34. Whistleblowing

All staff have a professional duty to raise concerns regarding poor, unsafe or inappropriate practice.
Concerns will be managed in accordance with the school's Whistleblowing Policy.

35. Related Policies

This policy should be read alongside:

- Safer Recruitment Policy.
- Staff Code of Conduct.
- Online Safety Policy.
- Digital Access and Acceptable Use Policy.
- Positive Behaviour Policy.
- Anti-Bullying Policy.
- Supervision Policy.
- Missing Learner Procedure.
- Whistleblowing Policy.
- ALN and Inclusion Policy.

- Complaints Policy.
- Physical Intervention Policy.

36. Monitoring, Audit and Review
The Proprietor, Headteacher and DSP will monitor safeguarding arrangements through:

- Annual safeguarding audits.
- Review of safeguarding incidents and referrals.
- Monitoring of staff training and competency.
- Review of safeguarding records.
- Learner feedback and participation activities.
- Staff feedback and supervision.
- Evaluation of multi-agency working.
- Review of filtering and monitoring arrangements.
- Review of low-level concerns and allegations.
- Annual policy review or sooner where legislation, guidance or local safeguarding arrangements change.

Appendix 1 - Associated Policies, Guidance and Advice
Core Welsh Safeguarding Legislation and Guidance

- Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act 2014. [gov.wales], [socialcare.wales]
- Keeping Learners Safe: The role of local authorities, governing bodies and proprietors of independent schools under the Education Act 2002 (Welsh Government Guidance 275/2021). [gov.wales], [gov.wales]
- Wales Safeguarding Procedures and associated Practice Guides. [socialcare.wales], [safeguarding.wales]
- Working Together to Safeguard People: Code of Safeguarding Practice.
- Children (Abolition of Defence of Reasonable Punishment) (Wales) Act 2020. [safeguarding.wales]
- Additional Learning Needs and Education Tribunal (Wales) Act 2018.
- Violence Against Women, Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence (Wales) Act 2015.
- Curriculum and Assessment (Wales) Act 2021.
- Curriculum for Wales: Relationships and Sexuality Education (RSE) Code.
- Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015.
- Equality Act 2010.
- Human Rights Act 1998.
- Data Protection Act 2018 and UK GDPR.
- Education Act 2002.
- Children Act 1989.
- Children Act 2004.
- Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015.
- Independent School Standards (Wales) Regulations.
- Educational Records, School Reports and Common Transfer System Guidance.

Welsh Government Guidance

- Keeping Learners Safe.
- Whistleblowing in Schools.

- Reporting Misconduct and Professional Incompetence in the Education Workforce.
- Disciplinary and Dismissal Procedures for School Staff.
- Handling Allegations of Abuse Against Teachers and Other Staff.
- Children Missing Education Guidance.
- Safe and Effective Intervention: Use of Reasonable Force and Searching for Weapons.
- Rights, Respect, Equality Guidance for Schools.
- Respect and Resilience: Developing Community Cohesion.
- Responding to Issues of Self-Harm and Thoughts of Suicide in Young People.
- Single Unified Safeguarding Review (SUSR) Guidance.

Appendix 2 - Inspection and Regulatory Bodies

- Estyn Inspection Guidance for Independent Schools.
- Estyn Safeguarding Arrangements Guidance.
- Care Inspectorate Wales (CIW).
- Education Workforce Council (EWC).
- Information Commissioner's Office (ICO).

Appendix 3 - Online Safety and Digital Safeguarding
Online Safety Resources

- Hwb Digital Resilience Resources. [hwb.gov.wales], [gov.wales]
- Hwb Web Filtering and Online Safeguarding Standards. [hwb.gov.wales]
- CEOP ThinkUKnow.
- Childnet International.
- UK Safer Internet Centre.
- Internet Matters.
- NSPCC Online Safety Resources.

Appendix 4 - Mental Health and Safeguarding

Mental health problems do not in themselves constitute abuse.
However, poor mental health may:

- Be an indicator that a learner has experienced abuse, neglect or exploitation.
- Increase vulnerability to abuse or exploitation.
- Increase safeguarding risk.
- Affect a learner's ability to protect themselves or seek help.

Staff should be alert to indicators of emotional distress, self-harm, suicidal ideation and mental health difficulties and report concerns in accordance with safeguarding procedures.

Appendix 5 -Serious Violence

Children may be vulnerable to serious violence and criminal exploitation.
Indicators may include:

- Increased absence from school.
- Changes in friendship groups.
- Possession of weapons.
- Involvement with gangs.
- Unexplained injuries.
- Drug and alcohol misuse.
- Increased risk-taking behaviour.

Concerns regarding serious violence will be treated as safeguarding concerns and managed in accordance with Wales Safeguarding Procedures. **[socialcare.wales], [gov.wales]**

Appendix 6 - Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Safeguarding

Generative Artificial Intelligence (AI) tools are increasingly used by both adults and young people.

Amberleigh Therapeutic School recognises the educational benefits of AI but also acknowledges emerging safeguarding risks.
These risks may include:

- AI-generated indecent imagery.
- Deepfake images, audio and video.
- AI-assisted grooming.
- AI-generated child sexual abuse material.
- Sextortion.
- Online impersonation.
- Identity manipulation.
- Cyberbullying and harassment.
- Manipulation of evidence.
- Misinformation and harmful content generation.
- Collection and misuse of personal information.
- Academic dishonesty and exploitation.

Staff should recognise that AI technologies can increase the speed, scale and sophistication of online harm.
Any safeguarding concerns involving AI-generated content will be managed in accordance with:

- Wales Safeguarding Procedures.
- Keeping Learners Safe.
- The Online Safety Policy.
- The Behaviour Policy.
- The Staff Code of Conduct.
- Data Protection legislation.

Staff must immediately report concerns involving AI-generated content to the DSP.
The school's filtering and monitoring arrangements will extend to AI technologies wherever practicable.
All new AI tools introduced into school will be subject to an appropriate safeguarding, privacy and data protection risk assessment prior to implementation.

Appendix 7 Child-on-Child Abuse
The DSP will ensure that appropriate risk assessments and support plans are implemented for victims, alleged perpetrators, witnesses and any other learners affected by incidents of child-on-child abuse.
The school recognises that child-on-child abuse may occur both on and off site, including online. Abuse will never be dismissed as banter, growing up, horseplay or part of normal adolescent behaviour.

Victims will be supported, protected and listened to.

Appendix 8 - Children Missing Education Section
Children missing education may be at increased risk of:

- Child Sexual Exploitation.
- Child Criminal Exploitation.
- County Lines involvement.
- Trafficking.
- Forced Marriage.
- Serious Violence.
- Radicalisation.

Missing education concerns will therefore always be treated as safeguarding concerns.

Appendix 9 - Technology-Facilitated Abuse

Technology-facilitated abuse occurs where digital technology is used to abuse, control, exploit, threaten, monitor or harm a child.
Examples may include:

- Online grooming.
- Sextortion.
- Image-based abuse.
- Deepfake exploitation.
- AI-generated abuse.
- Catfishing.
- Cyberstalking.
- Coercive control through digital platforms.
- Online sexual exploitation.

All concerns relating to technology-facilitated abuse must be reported immediately to the DSP and managed through safeguarding procedures.

Appendix 10 - Contacts

Contact details are:

Sioned Davies, Head Teacher
Sioned.Davies@amberleighcare.co.uk

Alison Adams, Deputy Head Teacher
Alison Adams@amberleighcare.co.uk

Staff are contactable at:
Amberleigh School (Golfa)
Tel: 01938 554111

Safeguarding Committee
Amberleigh has a Safeguarding Committee, the members of the committee are communicated to all staff as well as details being displayed in the house and school.
The Safeguarding Committee consists of the following individuals:

- Managing Director, Kevin Gallagher
- Director of Operations, Michelle Russell
- Deputy Director of Operations Kelly Nicholson.
- Headteacher (Golfa) Sioned Davies
- Registered Manager (Golfa) Sarah Nicholls
- Therapy Manager (Golfa) Lisa Nuttall
- Clinical Manager (Golfa) Marie Clusston

The role of the Safeguarding Committee is to:

- Review, on an annual basis, the arrangements for safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children, and supporting the implementation of any action plan arising from that review;
- Meet on a monthly basis as part of the management meeting, or more often if required, in order to ensure the welfare of children;
- Oversee and monitor all safeguarding concerns;
- Provide an opportunity to share and ensure best practice across Amberleigh Schools with regard to safeguarding.

Additional Responsibilities of the Safeguarding Committee
The Safeguarding Committee will:

- Review annual safeguarding audits.
- Monitor safeguarding referrals and outcomes.
- Monitor low-level concerns and allegations.
- Review safeguarding training compliance.
- Monitor safeguarding trends and patterns.
- Review child-on-child abuse incidents.
- Review online safety, filtering and monitoring reports.
- Review incidents involving artificial intelligence and emerging technologies.
- Monitor implementation of safeguarding action plans.
- Provide assurance to the Proprietor regarding safeguarding effectiveness.

In addition, the Proprietor (Kevin Gallagher) must be informed of all safeguarding concerns made to the Designated Safeguarding Lead, as soon as reasonably possible, and in any event within 24 hours of the concern being reported.

Children's and Adults Services can be contacted via Powys Front Door Team (Children) or ASSIST (Adults): Children's Services – Front Door Report Child Abuse - Powys County Council

Telephone – 01597 827666 Out of hours – 0845 054 4847 Adult Services – ASSIST Telephone 0345 602 7050

How to report abuse (A Safeguarding Concern) - Powys County Council

For Powys, Wales (Golfa)	
Care Inspectorate Wales (CIW) CIW National Office Welsh Government Rhydycar CF48 1UZ Telephone: 0300 7900 126	Estyn Anchor Court, Keen Road, Cardiff CF24 5JW. Telephone: 029 2044 6446

The school will consider lessons learned from Single Unified Safeguarding Reviews (SUSR), Child Practice Reviews and other relevant safeguarding reviews to inform policy and practice development.