SIR JOHN CASS RED COAT SCHOOL & SIXTH FORM COLLEGE

SAFEGUARDING
INFORMATION BOOKLET FOR PARENTS/CARERS

Introduction

This school recognises its moral and statutory responsibility to safeguard and promote the welfare of all its pupils. We will endeavour to provide a safe and welcoming environment where children are respected and valued. We will be vigilant to signs of abuse, vulnerability and neglect. We will follow our school procedures to ensure that pupils receive effective support and protection.

This leaflet has been put together to give you information about how we, at Sir John Cass Red Coat School, meet our safeguarding and child protection responsibilities.

The Safeguarding Team

MR IAIN CAMERON - *Assistant Headteacher*

0207 790 6712   Ext 115   email: iain.cameron@sjcr.net

The designated Safeguarding Officer is Mr Iain Cameron.
Mr Cameron has overall responsibility for safeguarding and reports to the headteacher.
He is the lead teacher for Child Protection.

MS MARIELLE DOW - *Assistant Headteacher*

0207 790 6712   Ext 146   email: marielle.dow@sjcr.net

Ms. Dow is the lead teacher for Prevent. This is a national programme aimed at protecting children from the dangers of radicalisation and extremism

MR NEIL JONES - *Assistant Headteacher*

0207 790 6712   Ext 118   email: neil.jones@sjcr.net

Mr Jones is the lead teacher for eSafety in this school

MRS LEENA HUSSAIN - *Deputy Headteacher*

0207 790 6712   Ext 165   email: leena.hussain@sjcr.net

Co-Lead teacher for the Safer Recruitment of staff

MS PENNY JOHNSON - *Deputy Headteacher*

0207 790 6712   Ext 143   penny.johnson@sjcr.net

MR ELLIOT GREEN - *Assistant Headteacher*

0207 790 6712   Ext 119   email: elliot.green@sjcr.net

Mr Green is also trained in safeguarding and deputises for
Mr Cameron and Ms Regan in their absence

MS NICKI REGAN - *Head of Year*

0207 790 6712   Ext 141   email: nicki.regan@sjcr.net

Ms Regan is the deputy lead teacher for Child Protection

MRS ANGELA HANCOCK - *Lead Governor for Safeguarding*

email: angela.saunders123@betinternet.com

Mrs Hancock is the designated governor for safeguarding

Child Protection

No parent/carer wants to consider the possibility of his or her child becoming a victim of abuse.

Even though most children are never abused it is important for parents to understand the possibility of this danger. Also for them to be fully aware of the help and support that is available to the child and the family in such a situation.

If you are worried about the safety or welfare of a child.

Most parents worry that their suspicions might be wrong or that they will be interfering unnecessarily. Your immediate concern in these circumstances, however, should be the protection of your son or daughter. Contacting one of the staff at the school for advice and guidance, or one of the numbers listed below, is therefore the recommended action you should take.

If the school is worried about your child.

This school has a duty of care for all of its pupils. If a pupil tells us something that is of concern we are duty bound to both, believe the child, and act on this information. At all times we will act discretely, and only share information/concerns with relevant professional agencies.

How school supports your child.

There are a number of strategies Sir John Cass Red Coat school uses to help protect and support children who could be vulnerable.

These include:

• The training of all staff with regard to safeguarding issues, including the recognition of possible signs of abuse.

• The expectation that all of our staff are vigilant and contribute to the creation of an ethos in the school of 'it could happen here'.

• Assembly presentations, delivered to all pupils, both from key staff and external providers, on the dangers of abuse.

• The inclusion of safeguarding information in Student Planners (which parents/carer are requested to read themselves and discuss with their children.)

• Pupils having access to a school counsellor.

Useful telephone numbers for parents/carers:

Childline	**0800 1111**
NSPCC	**0808 800 5000**
NPSCC Texting Service	**88858**
NSPCC Email Service	
help@nspcc.org.uk	

AWA (Attendance and Welfare Adviser)
(Ms. Rashida Begum)   **020 7364 3437**

**YISP (Youth Inclusion
and Support Panel)**   **020 7364 1306**

Step Forward   **020 7739 3082**

**CAHMS (Child and Adolescent Mental
Health Service)**   **020 7426 2375**

eSafety tips for parents

How might your child be at risk?

The internet makes young people vulnerable to grooming for both sexual exploitation and radicalisation.

What can you do as a parent or carer to keep your child safe online?

The internet is always changing and being able to keep up to date with your childrens use of technology can be a challenge. You may sometimes feel that your children have better technical skills than you do. However young people still need advice and protection when it comes to managing their lives online and using the internet positively and safely.

Here are some tips on how to ensure that your children are safe when online:

- **Be involved in your child's online life.**

For many of today's young people there is no line between the online and offline worlds. Talk to them about what they are doing, if they know you understand they are more likely to approach you if they need support. You can find ideas on how to discuss such matters with your child on the SJCR website (www.sjcr.net).

- **Keep up-to-date with your child's development online.**

Be inquisitive and interested in the new gadgets and sites that your child is using. It is important that, as your child learns more, so do you.

- **Set boundaries in the online world just as you would in the real world.**

Think about what they might see, what they share, who they talk to and how long they spend online. It is important to continue to discuss boundaries so that they evolve as your child's use of technology does.

- **Know what connects to the internet and how.**

Nowadays even the TV connects to the internet. Your child will use all sorts of devices and gadgets. It is important to make sure you are aware of which ones can connect to the internet, such as their phone or games console. Also, to find out how they are accessing the internet – is it with your connection or a neighbour's Wifi? This will affect whether your safety settings are being applied.

- **Consider the use of parental controls on devices that link to the internet, such as the TV, laptops, computers, games consoles and mobile phones.**

Parental controls are not just about locking and blocking, they are a tool to help you set appropriate boundaries as your child grows and develops.

- **Emphasise that not everyone is who they say they are.**

Make sure your child knows never to meet up with someone they only know online. People might not always be who they say they are.

- **Know what to do if something goes wrong.**

Just as in the offline world, you will want to help your child when they need it. Therefore, it is important to know when and how to report any problem. You can find details on what do to in such circumstances on the Sir John Cass Red Coat website in the e-safety section.

In addition to the SJCR website (www.sjcr.net) section on e-safety more information can be found at *www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents*

Prevent Strategy

The Home office's definition of extremism: *"Vocal or active opposition to fundamental British values, including democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty and mutual respect and tolerance of different faiths and beliefs.   Also calls for the death of members of our armed forces whether in this country or overseas."*

We are committed to working closely with parents/carers to prevent students from being harmed by individuals, groups or others who promote violent extremism.

How might a young person be drawn towards extremist ideologies?

Currently a number of young girls and boys have been persuaded to leave the country against the wishes of their families, or in secret, putting themselves in extreme danger.

Extremists spread their message through social media and use other messaging sites such as Facebook, Youtube, Twitter, Instagram, Vine, Whatsapp, Ask.fm

(Please, refer to the e-safety section of this information booklet, page 5 on how to keep your children safe online)

What are the signs of danger to your son or daughter that you may notice:

- **Change of behaviour:**

• Young people may become more quiet and withdrawn.

• They may appear to spend more time on the Internet, studying.

• They may become more involved in religious practices.

• They may mix with a different type of friends or they might lose interest in friends.

- **Dress:** the way they dress may change (in the case of Islamic radicalisation, they may dress more modestly)

More obvious signs to look for:

• Possessing illegal or extremist literature

• Glorifying violence

• Advocating messages similar to illegal organisations such as "Muslims Against Crusades" or other non-proscribed extremist groups such as the English Defence League

What can you do as a parent or carer to keep your child safe?

- **Know what social media and messaging sites your child uses.**

Tip: *You may want to become your child's "friend" on Facebook to allow you to check what they are up to.*

• **Remind your child that people they contact over the internet may be pretending to be someone else or may be telling them things that are not true.**

(Please, refer to the e-safety section of this booklet)

• **Talk to your child and explain that expressing strong views and trying to change things for the better is fine but they should not take violent action against others or support those that do.**

• **Remind your child that religion does not promote violence.**

Advice from Local Authority:

If you feel there is a risk of a child leaving the country, you might want to consider locking passports in a safe place.

(Some young people think they need to use a passport for confirming their age - they do not - they can apply for an identification card.)

To obtain an official photo ID for the UK visit: www.validateuk.co.uk

For more information telephone: (01434 634 996)

What the school has done

• Prevent training is provided for teaching and non-teaching staff who have regular contact with students as well as governors on recognising and responding to the risk of violent extremism. Training also addresses the role of professionals in identifying when a pupil may be at risk of engaging in extremism and how to respond if they do.

• The school addresses prevention against radicalisation through the curriculum and other activities, such as Citizenship programmes, where the following are taught and discussed: British values, tolerance, equality, the critical appraisal of propaganda and explicit teaching on the threat of extremism, radicalisation and terrorism.

• Age appropriate awareness assemblies are delivered to all year groups.

• The Moderate Path Workshop, taking place every Friday after school, helps students become more resilient in their own beliefs and religion by enabling them to develop higher order critical thinking skills.

• The school has appointed a Muslim and a Christian Chaplain.

• **Mr Deen** (Muslim Chaplain), **Mr Alim** (Head of Science), **Mrs Hussain** (Deputy Headteacher), **Mr Iqbal** (Deputy Head of Science and Critical Thinking teacher) are readily available to answer questions about Islam.

• Workshops for parents, to learn about social media and radicalisation, have been delivered by Tower Hamlets Local Authority

• Tower Hamlets have produced a leaflet called **'Advice to Parents and Carers. Keeping Children and Young People Safe Against Radicalisation and Extremism'.** A copy of this leaflet can be found on the school's website.

If you have a concern

• Please talk to your child's Form teacher, Head of Year, **Mr Cameron** (Safeguarding officer), **Mrs Dow** (Prevent lead), **the Headteache**r or another person in the school that you trust, as soon as possible. They will be able to help and can access support for you and your child.

• The Active Change Foundation (ACF) provide a confidential helpline to prevent British nationals from travelling to conflict zones.

Safer Recruitment

The school has rigorous procedures for the recruitment of its staff.

All interview panels will include at least one member who has attended and passed the Safer Recruitment Training provided by the London Borough of Tower Hamlets or the LDBS.

This training is assessed and those who have undergone the training are graded. Members of interview panels are asked to produce original certificates as evidence that the assessment has been passed. The certificates are seen by the school's HR manager and copies are taken for school records.

Visiting Speakers

Sir John Cass Red Coat School & Sixth Form College appreciates and values the educational benefits of outside speakers visiting us to address pupils.

We also recognise the responsibility we have to safeguard pupils. Therefore a number of safeguarding procedures are followed.

All visiting speakers are vetted to ensure they are suitable to address pupils. They also sign an agreement to ensure the content of their speech will be appropriate.

Any Questions

If you have questions about issues relating to this leaflet please contact any of the staff highlighted within it.

A copy of the full safeguarding policy can be found on the school's website: **www.sjcr.net**

ACF Confidential helpline telephone number is 020 8539 2770

You may also want to contact:

Tower Hamlets Prevent Project Manager, Nojmul Hussain, nojmul.hussain@towerhamlets.gov.uk telephone: 020 7634 4691

Support for Learning Service, Liz Vickerie, liz.vickerie@towerhamlets.gov.uk Telephone: 020 7364 6448.