



# Oak View Academy

Believe, Expect, Succeed

## Protecting Vulnerable Children

### Definition

In the context of our school community vulnerable children are:

- Children who are carers for parents/other adults and/or siblings
- Children with Additional Needs
- Children who live in the Looked After sector
- Children with a Child Protection Plan/Child in Need Plan
- Children with a TAF
- Children with special educational needs
- Children with medical needs
- Children who are disabled
- Children with emotional/behavioural needs
- Children who live in poverty
- Children who do not speak English as their home language
- Children who are being bullied
- Children with unsupervised access to the internet
- Children who have suffered trauma and/or bereavement
- Children whose attendance is low
- Travellers

In addition to this, vulnerable children are children who show any signs of possible physical or emotional abuse.

### Identification and Support

Teachers and non teaching staff should always be aware of those children who are showing signs of being upset, withdrawn, frightened or display inappropriate behaviour. Any concerns should be brought immediately to the Deputy Headteacher who is the designated Child Protection Officer, or in his absence, Mrs Jo Price our Inclusion Manager or Ms Whittaker our Principal– refer to Child Protection Policy for further guidelines and procedures.

### Support

In line with our vision statement, we aim to ensure that every child in our care **achieves** his/her potential by providing a caring, supportive environment and by realising each individual's talents, thereby promoting the child's educational achievement.

Communication with parents is vital in this process. The Child Protection Officer and SENDCO are responsible for ensuring that provision for all vulnerable children is appropriate to his/her needs. This involves working closely with the parents and outside agencies with close monitoring of progress.

Annual Safeguarding Training takes place for all staff.