



## Self-Harm Policy

This policy is written in conjunction with NYCC Safeguarding Children Board – ‘North Yorkshire Pathway of support for children and young people with self-harming behaviour and/ or suicidal ideation’

### **Introduction and Context**

Recent research indicates that up to one in ten young people in the UK engage in self-harming behaviours, and that this figure is higher amongst specific populations, including young people with special educational needs. School staff can play an important role in preventing self-harm, building resilience and supporting pupils, peers and parents of pupils currently engaging in self-harm.

### **Purpose**

This document is a policy for staff working at Cayton School who may be supporting pupils who self-harm.

### **Aims**

- To adhere to the “NYCC Self Harm Guidance protocol”
- To develop outstanding practice within this school to help and support pupils who self-harm.

### **Definition of Self Harm**

Self-harm is any behaviour where the intent is to deliberately cause harm to one’s own body.

### **Roles and responsibilities**

#### **The Governing Board**

The governing board has the legal duty to safeguard and promote the welfare of their pupils. Mrs C Tindall is the governor who has responsibility for safeguarding and has an oversight for provision for pupils who self-harm.

#### **The Headteacher**

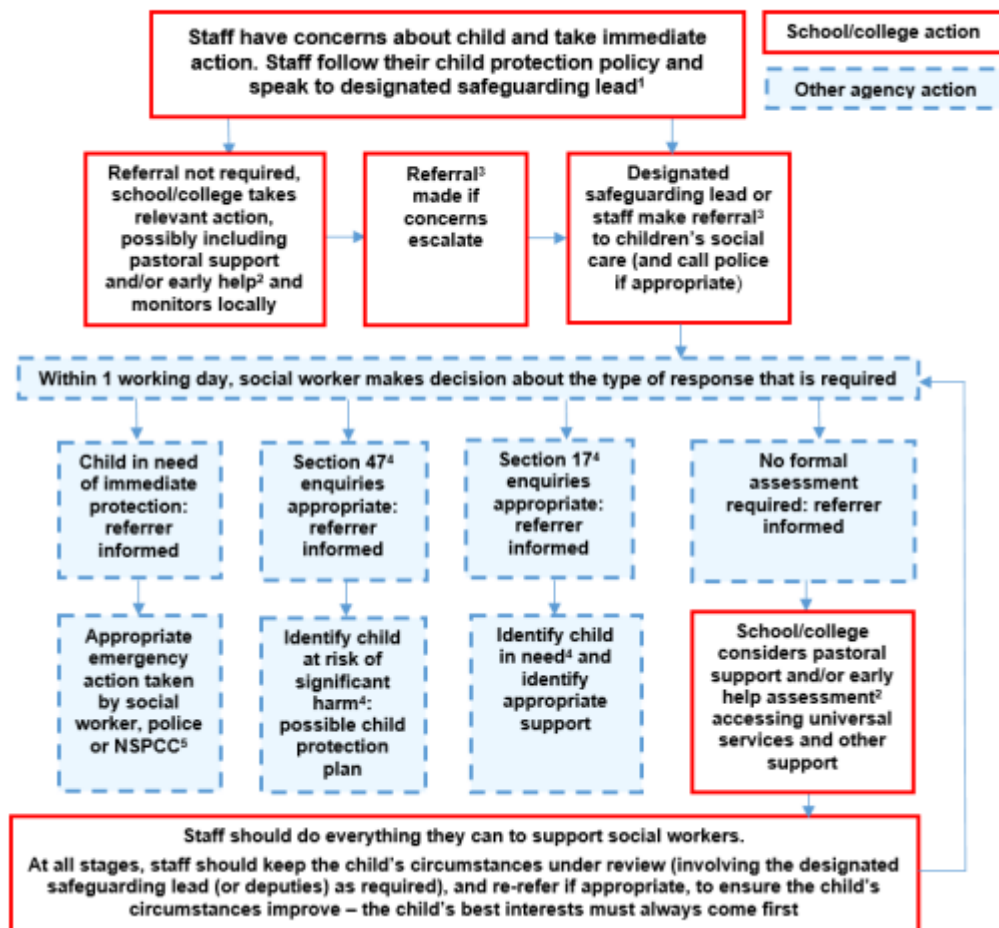
The Headteacher has responsibility for establishing effective safeguarding procedures with regard to self-harm, thereby ensuring the duty of care of pupils and staff.

### **Staff**

Pupils may choose to confide in any member of school staff if they are concerned about their own welfare, or that of a peer.

**Referral procedures are:**

**Actions where there are concerns about a child**



This includes all staff being aware of the North Yorkshire pathway of support for children and young people who deliberately self-harm.

**Training**

Schools are recommended to access training regularly on self-harm. Staff giving support to pupils who self-harm may experience all sorts of reactions to this behaviour in pupils (e.g. anger, helplessness, rejection); staff have an opportunity to talk this through with DSL (Mrs R Wood). Mrs Wood has attended training on self-harm. Induction procedures for all staff will include training on Self Harm, Child Protection procedures and setting boundaries around Confidentiality.

**Monitoring and Evaluation**

Mrs C Tindall (The designated governor who has responsibility for safeguarding) will monitor the systems yearly and following any incident of self-harm.

Written By: Mrs J Monaghan/ Mrs R Wood  
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