

# Safeguarding

As you will no doubt be aware safeguarding is now a major focus of the new Ofsted inspection framework. There have been a number of horror stories where outstanding schools have failed due to the lack of one piece of paper being signed. It is not quite as bad as that, nonetheless if the relevant requirements are not in place then a school can immediately be put into a category even if standards are above average.

Documents that inspectors will want to see include:

- The Single Central Record
- List of the designated child protection person, the number 2 person, and their training record
- The child protection training record for all staff
- The school's Child Protection/Safeguarding policy
- The Bullying and Harassment policy
- The school's log of any incidents of bullying and harassment
- The school's log of racist incidents
- The accident book
- The school's procedures to protect vulnerable children
- The school's Health and Safety policy

Additional information that might be helpful could include:

- The completed Safeguarding/Child Protection audit tool
- Any guidance that schools have for visitors and volunteers
- Information about child protection arrangements in the school prospectus, on the school website, and within the Staff and Governor Induction policies
- the school's Reasonable Force and Restraint policy and evidence of staff training
- Information about safeguarding arrangements for extended services provision, with contractors, and so on

The framework states:

**'From September, inspectors judge a school's compliance with requirements for the single central record in relation to how it is found at the start of the inspection. Inspectors are advised to look at the school's compliance with the requirements for the single central record on day 1 of the inspection.'**

It is therefore imperative that your Single Central Record is checked regularly - monthly by the headteacher (signed and dated) and termly by the governing body (minuted and dated).

Another issue to be aware of is the check on supply staff. You will be asked to show the letter from the supply agency regarding the relevant checks on their employee, however you will need to show how you check the identity of the teacher yourself. It is recommended that you ask supply staff to bring in their CRB and some other form of identification when they come at the start of the school day.