



All policies carrying the Bryanston logo apply equally to any other brands or operations of Bryanston including Bryanston Prep

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CODE OF CONDUCT FOR BRYANSTON SCHOOL EMPLOYEES

1. Purpose, Scope and Principles

This Code of Conduct is designed to give clear guidance on the standards of behaviour all employees are expected to observe, and as such the school will notify employees of this code and the expectations therein and of any updating which takes place at annual review.

This code applies to all individuals working for the school at all levels (permanent, fixed term and temporary), and includes governors, volunteers, agents, contractors or any other person associated with us (collectively referred to as employees in this code).

2. Professional Conduct

Employees are expected to promote fundamental British values, including democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty and mutual respect, and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs.

Employees must have proper and professional regard for the ethos, policies and practices of the school in which they teach and maintain high standards in their own attendance and punctuality.

In addition, specifically for teaching colleagues, although still relevant to support colleagues, the school has an expectation that teachers will put the well-being and education of their pupils first and will meet the DofE Teachers' Standards, the headline principles of which are that teachers must:

1. Set high expectations which inspire, motivate and challenge pupils.
2. Promote good progress and outcomes by pupils.
3. Demonstrate good subject and curriculum knowledge.
4. Plan and teach well-structured lessons.
5. Adapt teaching to respond to the strengths and needs of all pupils.
6. Make accurate and productive use of assessment.
7. Manage behaviour effectively to ensure a good and safe learning environment.
8. Fulfil wider professional responsibilities.
9. Uphold public trust in the profession and maintain high standards of ethics and behaviour within and outside the school.
10. Have proper and professional regard for the ethos, policies and practices of the school.



11. Understand, and always act within, the statutory frameworks which set out their professional duties and responsibilities.

For further details visit <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/teachers-standards>

3. Keeping Children Safe in Education

The school has a Safeguarding Policy and Child Protection Procedures, a Whistleblowing Policy and a Dealing with Allegations of Abuse Raised in Relation to Employees Policy; all employees must familiarise themselves with and abide by these policies.

All employees have a duty to report Child Protection concerns about a pupil to the Designated Safeguarding Lead of Bryanston or Bryanston Prep depending on which year the pupil attends.

In addition, all employees must attend training sessions, as required by the school. The school continues to carry out appropriate employment checks for all employees to ensure their eligibility and suitability to work at Bryanston.

Low level concerns

A 'low-level' concern is any concern – no matter how small, and even if no more than causing a sense of unease or a 'nagging doubt' – that an adult working with or on behalf of the school may have acted in a way that:

- is inconsistent with this Employee Code of Conduct, including inappropriate conduct outside of work.
- does not meet the allegations threshold or otherwise not considered serious enough to meet a referral to the LADO (but may merit consulting with and seeking advice).

Examples of such behaviour could include, but are not limited to:

- being over friendly with children.
- having favourites.
- taking photographs of children on their mobile phone.
- engaging with a child on a one-to-one basis in a secluded area or behind closed doors;
or
- using inappropriate sexualised, intimidating or offensive language.

The term 'low-level' concern does not mean that it is insignificant - it means that the adult's behaviour towards a child does not meet the harm threshold as set out in the School's Child Protection Policy and Safeguarding Procedures.

Identifying and reporting a low-level concern is regarded as just as important as a concern that meets the harm threshold. Employees are not expected to determine in each case whether their concern is a low-level concern or if it is not serious enough to consider a referral to the LADO, or whether it meets the allegation threshold. Once an employee has shared what they believe to be a low-level concern, that determination will be made by the



Head of Bryanston School. **Annex A provides a guide with examples of the type of allegation that may meet the harm threshold/allegation, what may constitute a low-level concern and appropriate conduct.**

If an employee has an allegation that may meet the harm threshold – they should follow the procedure in the Safeguarding and Child Protection Procedures Policy and in the Dealing with Allegations of Abuse Raised in Relation to Employees Policy.

Annex B provides an extract of examples of cases of child sexual abuse by adults in organisational settings. Its purpose is to illustrate that it is rare for cases of organisational child sexual abuse to occur without there having been preceding concerns observed by others. It also highlights other relevant issues about the circumstances of the abuse.

The purpose of including information and procedure regarding low-level concerns is to create and embed a culture of openness, trust and transparency in which Bryanston values and expected behaviour, which are set out in this Code of Conduct, are constantly lived, monitored and reinforced by all.

Bryanston wishes to have an environment in which employees are invited, encouraged and feel confident to self-refer, where, for example, they have found themselves to be in a situation which could be misinterpreted, might appear compromising to others, and/or on reflection they believe they have behaved in such a way that they consider falls below the expected professional standards.

Self-reporting can be positive for a number of reasons for example, it is self-protective and enables a potentially difficult issue to be addressed at the earliest opportunity. Self-reporting also demonstrates an awareness of an individual's own actions and maintains a culture of employees aspiring to the highest standards of conduct and behaviour.

Sharing a low-level concern

If an employee has what they believe to be a low-level concern no matter how small, about their own or another employee's behaviour, it must be shared with the Head of Bryanston School as soon as reasonably possible, or in any event within 24 hours of becoming aware of it. If the Head is not available, low-level concerns should be raised with the Senior Deputy Head.

If the low-level concern is in relation to the Head of Bryanston School or Head of Bryanston Prep, the low-level concern should be shared with the Chair of Governors.

The adult who is the subject of concern will be spoken to ascertain their account. If the employee who raised the concern does not wish to be named, the school will respect this as far as possible. Please be aware however that there may be circumstances where the employee member will need to be named, for example where it is necessary to carry out a fair disciplinary process.



The Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy and the Dealing with Allegations of Abuse Raised in Relation to Employees Policy sets out the action required following a low-level concern being shared with the Head.

[Keeping Children Safe in Education 2024](#)

4. Honesty and Integrity

Employees must maintain high standards of honesty and integrity in their work. In particular, employees must familiarise themselves with and abide by the School's Anti-bribery Fraud and Corruption Policy. In addition, employees must comply with School policies and procedures in relation to expenses and purchasing, the handling and claiming of money and the use of School property and facilities – see Code of Conduct Gifts by Bryanston and Employee Holiday work Extract.

5. Confidentiality

Employees must maintain the confidentiality of all confidential matters and information relating to past or current pupils (and/or their parents/carers), colleagues or the management of the school, the unauthorised disclosure of which might embarrass, harm or prejudice the individual or the school. In particular, employees must avoid:

- Posting or sharing such information online through any means such as social media sites.
- Allowing any unauthorised person from having access to such information which includes discussing such confidential matters with those persons who are not entitled to it.
- Responding to telephone enquiries from the press. Instead, these along with any other form of media enquiry, should be referred to the School's Marketing and Communications Department immediately.

Exemption for Safeguarding – employees have an obligation to share with the School's Designated Safeguarding Lead, any information which gives rise to concern about the safety or welfare of a pupil. Employees must never promise a pupil that they will not act on information that they are told by the pupil.

6. Data Protection

Employees must familiarise themselves with the School's Data Protection Policy for Employees. In particular, employees must only use personal data (any information which identifies a living individual) for purposes that are defined in the School's Record of Processing Activities which is held by the Data Protection Officer. Employees must store and process personal data securely and must not make any unauthorised disclosure or transfer of information outside the school. (Authorised disclosures or transfers are those defined within the School's Subject Access Request Policy, Privacy Notice or where the data subjects have given consent). Employees must securely dispose of personal data by shredding or permanent deletion of computer records at appropriate times as defined in the School's Records Management Policy. All employees must attend training sessions, as required by the school.



7. Conduct Away from Work

Employees must not engage in behaviour outside work which could seriously damage the reputation and standing of the school or the employee's own reputation or the reputation of other members of the school community.

In particular, offences that involve violence or the possession/use of illegal drugs or sexual misconduct are likely to be regarded as unacceptable and will lead to the school responding appropriately by taking disciplinary action.

Employees must exercise caution when using Information Technology, in both a professional and personal capacity, and be aware of the risks to themselves and others which may also bring themselves and the school community into disrepute. (See the Guide to Bryanston/ Employee Handbook for further details.)

Employees may, with the agreement of the Head and Chief Operating Officer, undertake work outside school, either paid or voluntary, provided that it does not conflict with the interests of the school and does not involve the sharing of any School intellectual capital, nor be to a level which may contravene the working time regulations or affect an individual's work performance.

8. Relationship with Other Individuals

Employees should treat others with respect and must not treat anyone less/more favourably than another because of his or her sex, sexual orientation, gender reassignment, marriage or civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, disability, age, ethnic background, religion or belief, political or immigration status.

Employees and Pupils

All employees should understand that they are in a position of trust in relation to pupils and as such should ensure that their relationships with pupils clearly take place within the boundaries of a respectful and professional relationship and avoid any behaviour that might be misinterpreted by others. A relationship between an adult and pupil (of whatever age) is not a relationship between equals and there is potential for exploitation and harm to young people.

Employee to Employee & Volunteers

All employees are expected to behave with dignity and respect towards each other. Any words or actions that could bring the school into disrepute should be avoided. Any actions or words that could make a colleague feel discriminated against, harassed or bullied, including racial slurs or sexualised language, should also be avoided.

Web-based or telecommunication interaction

Employees should not have any form of web-based or telecommunication interaction with a pupil that could be interpreted as inappropriate, sexually suggestive or provocative i.e. via verbal comments, letters, texts, emails, personal social media accounts or through physical contact. Employees should not give their personal contact details to pupils for example,



email address, home or mobile telephone numbers. Employees should not request or respond to any personal information from a pupil other than which may be necessary in their professional role. Employees should be alive to any possible interpretation that the behaviour could be regarded as 'grooming'.

Sexual Activity

Any sexual activity between an employee and a pupil (of whatever age - even if consensual) may be regarded as a criminal offence. Such activity will always be a matter for disciplinary action and will be regarded as a breach of professional misconduct.

Employees should recognise that it is not uncommon for pupils to be strongly attracted to an employee and/or develop a 'crush' of 'infatuation'. Employees should make every effort to ensure their own behaviour cannot be brought into question and does not appear to be encouraging such behaviour.

Transport

Employees should never offer to transport pupils outside their normal working hours, other than in an emergency or where not to do so would mean that the child may be at risk. In certain situations, it may be necessary for employees to transport pupils as part of their work. A judgement should be made about the likely behaviour or individual needs of the child and if close supervision is required at least one adult additional to the driver should act as an escort. Wherever possible and practicable, it is advisable that transport is undertaken other than in private vehicles.

1 : 1 situation

Employees working in one-to-one situations with pupils, including visiting employees from external organisations can be more vulnerable to allegations or complaints. A risk assessment in relation to the specific nature and implications of one-to-one work should be undertaken. Wherever possible, ensure there is visual access and/or an open door in such situations. The use of 'engaged' or equivalent sign wherever possible. Employees must consider the needs and circumstances of the pupil involved and always report any situation where a pupil becomes distressed or angry.

Physical Contact

There are occasions where it is appropriate and proper for employees to have physical contact with pupils however it is crucial that employees only do so in ways appropriate to their professional role and necessary in relation to a particular activity, for example, to demonstrate technique in the use of equipment and should only take place in a safe and open environment i.e. one easily observed by others. In situations where physical intervention is necessary procedures for restraint/use of reasonable force must be followed.

Employees in the Orchard Pre-Prep must abide by the Orchard Intimate Care Policy and Procedure.

Meeting pupils away from School

Arranging to meet with pupils away from the school is not permitted unless with clear approval from a senior employee, the pupil and their parents/carers.



Home Visits

All work with pupils and parents should usually be undertaken in the school or other recognised workplace. There are however occasions, in response to an urgent, planned or specific situation or job role, where it is necessary to make one-off or regular home visits.

A risk assessment should be undertaken prior to any planned home visit taking place to safeguard both employees and pupils, who can be more vulnerable in these situations. The assessment should include: an evaluation of any known factors regarding the pupil, parents/carers and any others living in the household. Consideration should be given to any circumstances which might render the employee becoming more vulnerable to an allegation being made e.g., hostility, child protection concerns, complaints or grievances. Specific thought should be given to visits outside of 'office hours' or in remote or secluded locations. Following the assessment, appropriate risk management measures should be put in place, before the visit is undertaken. In the unlikely event that little or no information is available, visits should not be undertaken alone.

Educational Visits

Employees should take particular care when supervising pupils in the less formal atmosphere of an educational visit where a more relaxed discipline or informal dress and language code may be acceptable. However, employees remain in a position of trust and need to ensure that their behaviour cannot be interpreted as seeking to establish an inappropriate relationship or friendship.

Where out of school or setting activities include overnight stays, careful consideration needs to be given to sleeping arrangements. Pupils, adults and parents should be informed of these prior to the start of the trip. In all circumstances, those organising trips and outings should pay careful attention to ensuring there is a safe employee/child ratio and suitable gender mix of employees.

Taking Images of Pupils

Employees may only take images of pupils in accordance with the School's Taking, Storing and Using Images of Pupils Policy and the School's Bring your Own Device (BYOD) Policy. Employees in the Orchard Pre-Prep must not have mobile phones with them at any time, except when on outside break duty for emergencies. Prep school employees may not have mobile phones on display when pupils are present, except that during outdoor activities (e.g., games, riding) where phones may be carried for emergency use only. Mobile phones should be carried on school trips for emergency use. Employees are not permitted to use mobile phones for the making or receiving of personal calls during lesson time.

Pupils in employee living accommodation

Employees must not invite any pupils into their living accommodation. It is not appropriate for employees to use, or be expected to use, their private living space for any activity which includes seeing pupils for the discussion of reports, tutorials, pastoral care or counselling etc.



There are two exceptions to this:

1. The first is if the child of an employee who invites a pupil to their house for social reasons. Where this occurs, the employee must seek permission from the House Parent in the first instance. Additionally, a one-to-one situation should be avoided with another adult always present. Careful thought should also be given to travel arrangements. In some instances, the school may require a risk assessment to be undertaken.
2. Secondly, occasions when the House Parent invites a group of pupils in their own house into their private accommodation. This should be the exception not the norm and permission must be sought from the Deputy Head Boarding & Pastoral. The event should be properly calendared and area of the house that pupils can access must be clearly delineated. A risk assessment will be carried out and consideration will be given to parental consent.

First aid and Medication

Employees should receive sufficient and suitable training and achieve the necessary level of competency before they take on responsibility to support pupils with medical conditions.

If an employee is concerned or uncertain about the amount or type of medication being given to a pupil this should be discussed with the Designated Safeguarding Lead.

Adults taking medication which may affect their ability to care for pupils should seek medical advice regarding their suitability to do so and providers should ensure that they only work directly with children if that advice confirms that the medication is unlikely to impair their ability to look after children. Employers are also responsible for managing the performance of their employees and for ensuring they are suitable to work with children.

Risk assessment is likely to recommend that employee medication on the premises must be securely stored and out of reach of pupils at all times.

Employees and their colleagues

In order to maintain a positive, harmonious and supportive culture at Bryanston, employees must communicate with each other (either in person or via any other means, e.g. email) in a polite, respectful and professional manner at all times regardless of role and responsibility.

Colleagues should have the freedom to express opinions and ideas freely without feeling undermined, belittled, or disrespected. Conflict should be addressed in a positive manner and the decisions of others respected.

Personal or professional differences are not an acceptable reason to behave unprofessionally.

Bullying/harassment will not be tolerated. All employees are expected to be vigilant in ensuring that instances of such are dealt with appropriately as soon as they are witnessed or reported.

Harassment may take the form of unwanted conduct which is related to a relevant Protected Characteristic which is perceived as affecting an employee's dignity at work. It may also take the form of unwanted conduct towards someone based on their appearance or other personal



characteristics which is perceived as affecting their dignity at work. It is not only unwanted physical contact, assault, or propositions; it includes suggestive remarks or gestures, pin-ups, graffiti, offensive comments, jokes, and banter. Harassment may include bullying, intimidatory behaviour, persistent teasing, or constant unfounded criticism of the performance of work tasks, unfair allocation of work and responsibilities, or exclusion from normal work-place conversation. It may be directed towards one individual or a group. A single incident can amount to harassment if sufficiently grave.

9. Other Expectations of Employees – Employees should:

- Exemplify and uphold the school's values
- Avoid putting themselves at risk of allegations of abusive or unprofessional behaviour.
- Avoid situations of actual or perceived conflict of interest.
- Ensure all activity for which they are responsible is undertaken with due regard to relevant legislation/regulations.
- Promote a safe working environment in compliance with the requirements of Health and Safety and be aware of all appropriate legislation/regulations.
- Treat with respect and not undermine pupils, their parents or carers, or colleagues.
- When representing the school (with parents/colleagues/suppliers/other third parties) act in a manner that promotes the aims and ethos of Bryanston.
- Optimise the use of resources for which they are responsible and over which they have influence.
- Comply with all the School's policies and procedures.
- Demonstrate behaviour that sets a good example to all the pupils within the school.
- Not enter private business arrangements with pupils or parents, without the prior approval of the Head or Chief Operating Officer secured in writing.
- Not use school property for private business purposes, without the prior agreement of the Head/Chief Operating Officer, secured in writing.
- Not take any items of the school's equipment for personal use/gain that may have, or appear to have been discarded, without the prior agreement of the Head and/or Chief Operating Officer secured in writing.

10. Disciplinary Action

All employees must recognise that failure to meet these standards of behaviour and practice may result in disciplinary action, which might include dismissal. The school also reserves the right to consider a referral to any external regulatory body, where appropriate. Eg. TRA (Teachers' Regulatory Authority), Charity Commission, etc.

11. Whistleblowing

Bryanston has adopted a procedure on 'whistleblowing' to enable employees (to include peripatetic employees, coaches, volunteers and contractors) to raise concerns about serious malpractice.



Employees are also aware of the following whistleblowing channels for situations where they feel unable to raise an issue with the senior team or feel that their genuine concerns are not being addressed:

- general guidance can be found at: Advice on whistleblowing <https://www.gov.uk/whistleblowing>.
- the NSPCC whistleblowing helpline is available [here](#) for employees who do not feel able to raise concerns regarding child protection failures internally. They can call: 0800 028 0285 – line is available from 08.00 – 20.00, Monday to Friday or Email: help@nspcc.org.uk.



Appendix A

Spectrum of Behaviour

Allegation

Behaviour which indicates that an adult who works with children has:

- ī behaved in a way that has harmed a child, or may have harmed a child; and/or
- ī possibly committed a criminal offence against or related to a child; and/or
- ī behaved towards a child or children in a way that indicates they may pose a risk of harm to children; and/or
- ī behaved or may have behaved in a way that indicates they may not be suitable to work with children.

Low-Level Concern

Does not mean that it is insignificant, it means that the adult's behaviour towards a child does not meet the threshold set out above. A low-level concern is any concern – no matter how small, and even if no more than causing a sense of unease or a 'nagging doubt' – that an adult may have acted in a way that:

- ī is inconsistent with an organisation's employee code of conduct, including inappropriate conduct outside of work, and
- ī does not meet the allegation threshold, or is otherwise not serious enough to consider a referral to the LADO - but may merit consulting with and seeking advice from the LADO, and on a no-names basis if necessary.

Appropriate Conduct

Behaviour which is entirely consistent with the organisation's employee code of conduct, and the law.



Appendix B

Table of key features of 15 cases of child sexual abuse in organisational settings

This table contains examples of fifteen cases of child sexual abuse by adults in organisational settings which were subsequently the subject of a public enquiry or published external review.

Its purpose is to illustrate that it is rare for cases of organisational child sexual abuse to occur without there having been preceding concerns observed by others. It also highlights other relevant issues about the circumstances of the abuse.

Education Sector⁴⁹

Case and source of information	1. Vanessa George Not for profit nursery (UK) for children aged 2+ and babies under 1 year. Plymouth Safeguarding Children Board (2010) <i>Serious Case Review re Nursery Z. Plymouth</i> , Plymouth Safeguarding Children Board.
The perpetrator	Female nursery worker. Aged 39 when sentenced in 2009. <i>Known</i> to have abused babies and children between late 2008 and June 2009. Concerns about Mrs. George's behaviour was raised from late 2008 (she joined the nursery in 2006). Took indecent images of, and sexually abused children at, the nursery where she worked. Sent images of herself abusing children at the nursery to a male who she met over the internet. She did not meet him in person until their trial. A popular member of staff who was described as having changed around the time of the commencement of the abuse. Initially described by the community as happy and bubbly. The SCR states "Although she was not senior in her position, other factors such as her age, personality and length of service could have created an illusion of position of power and encouraged a sense of trust." (Paragraph 5.2)
Known victim(s)	Babies and children under school age – exact ages unknown.

Police were unable to identify victims. Victims were too young to report the abuse.

Staff noted changes from December 2008 when Mrs. George started to talk about chasing men and sexual encounters.

Mrs. George was noted to not use general nappy changing areas but to use cubicle with full door. Mrs. George justified this on the basis that she could not bend to change nappies.

Mrs. George's physical bulk blocked line of sight of her activities.

Mrs. George's position of power within the staff group was such that although staff became increasingly concerned about her crude language, discussion of extra-marital relationships and showing indecent images of adults on her phone, they felt unable to challenge her.

It is possible that staff believed they had "allowed" the abuse to happen as they had been drawn into her discussions about adult sexual behaviours but had not known how to raise this with others.



A student on placement was described as being petrified of the nursery manager, which may have been indicative of the culture of the nursery.

Education Sector

Organisational culture

Staff described the nursery as dirty, depressing and demoralising.

There were poor recruitment practices. Roles and boundaries were not clear.

Roles of Trustees were not clear.

The nursery complaints procedure was not clear. Cliques within staff made it difficult to report or act. There was poor recording of incidents and follow up.

There were no whistleblowing procedures nor advice around e.g. nappy changing etc.

The ratio of staff to children was frequently breached, allowing Mrs. George more opportunities to be alone with a child.

A review of records and staff interviews made it clear that the nursery was not able consistently to provide a safe, positive environment for the children in its care.

Staff had little or no knowledge of sexual abuse or offending.

Family and community

Parents thought the manager was the owner of the nursery, which was not the case.

Governance arrangements were poor.

Parents did not know how to make a complaint.

Parents and nursery workers socialised together – blurring boundaries.

The nursery manager was also a Governor of the school that the nursery was associated with, and a foster carer, meaning the community expected that she would understand safeguarding, which in turn made it more difficult to challenge the ethos of the school.

Education Sector

Case and source of information

2. Robert Stringer

State Primary (UK).

Raynes, B (2011) *Executive Summary of Serious Case Review Written About Teacher Mr X*, Hillingdon Local Safeguarding Children Board.

The perpetrator

Male; joined the school as a newly qualified teacher.

Committed suicide when due for trial in 2010, aged 56. Known to have abused girls between 2003 and 2009.

Concerns about Mr. Stringer's behaviour was raised in 1998 – the year he joined the school.

Charged with 25 offences against four girls between 2000-2007.

Set up and led a prestigious drama club with which Mr. Stringer used to test out the likely resistance of children he targeted for abuse.

Difficult to manage, he flouted school rules, and his lessons were known to lack structure.

Known victim(s)

Girls under 13 years old, the youngest aged 9.



Known to have favourites.

Pupils were aware that Mr. Stringer had access to a large knife used in drama productions.

Pupils sought status through selection for roles in the drama club.

Pupils were told Mr. Stringer would go to prison if they disclosed and no-one would then be able to look after his disabled wife.

Colleagues

Head and colleagues found Mr. Stringer “difficult.”

Mr. Stringer instilled fear in staff through his behaviour e.g. shouting at them.

Staff expressed concerns about Mr. Stringer’s relationship with pupils in the drama club.

Anonymous referral was made to the headteacher.

Reported concerns included suspicious photos on Mr. Stringer’s computer and him showing 15 rated DVD with explicit sex scenes to year 5 (9-year-old) pupils. This latter concern was reported by the parent of another child.

Two teachers who attended safer recruitment training informed the headteacher that Mr. Stringer “ticks all the boxes of the [training] exercise *Profile of an abuser.*”

Organisational culture

Mr Stringer’s offending spanned the tenure of two

headteachers. Weak

leadership of the first headteacher, and personal distractions of the second headteacher, fostered a culture where safeguarding was not taken seriously.

Lack of record keeping meant patterns of behaviour were not identified.

Family and community

Parents were desperate for their children to get into the

drama club which

Mr. Stringer used to foster strong relationships with parents.

Parents petitioned for Mr. Stringer to return to the school when suspended.

Mr. Stringer had strong backing from the governing body making it difficult for second headteacher to challenge him.

Education Sector

Case and source of information

6. Jonathon Thomson-Glover

Independent boys’ day and boarding school (UK).

Jones, P. (2016) *Investigation into Safeguarding Issues at Clifton College Arising from The Prosecution Of X*, Bristol: Clifton College.

The perpetrator

Male Housemaster, teacher and former pupil of the school.

Aged 53 when convicted in 2016.

Known to have abused secondary aged boys over a period of 16 years. Also took covert indecent photographs and video of male and female pupils.

Concerns about Mr. Thomson-Glover’s behaviour was raised from 1999 onwards.

Convicted of taking indecent images of pupils between 1998-2004. 330 tapes were recovered by Police.

Secretly installed cameras.

Groomed pupils through providing friendship, beer, pizza, socialising and encouraging them to break school rules. Sexualised relationships through “banter” and discussing his own sexual relationships.



Befriended adult carers and headteachers.

Described by boys as behaving like a friend rather than a teacher.

Known victim(s) Boys – described as “good looking, naughty, sporty” were favourites.

“Chosen” to go and stay at a holiday cottage owned by Mr. Thomson-Glover, where he also abused two boys.

Victims were also chosen to socialise with Mr. Thomson-Glover in his (school) study, where alcohol was consumed.

In 2003 pupils complained about Mr. Thomson-Glover sleeping in the school boarding house, locking the kitchen and drinking alcohol.

Colleague noticed blurred boundaries between pupils and Mr. Thomson- Glover.

An Education Psychologist was concerned about favourites and Mr. Thomson- Glover fitting the profile of an abuser.

Several allegations were made about Mr. Thomson-Glover being tied up in his study by pupils in a state of undress.

A cleaner reported Mr. Thomson-Glover wrapping a boy in cellophane as a prank.

Concerns were expressed by non-teaching staff who could see Mr. Thomson- Glover’s behaviour was different from other staff. Complaints were diluted, lost or disbelieved as they went up the management chain.

Organisational culture A liberal ethos in the school had developed from its early days and this deterred people from reporting concerns when rules were broken. Favouritism was part of the school culture.

There was a culture of “informally socialising.” There was a culture of “pranks” in the school.

There was a lack of curiosity or consideration that “it could happen here.”

Education Sector

Family and community whom would make

There were permeable boundaries with families, some of private visits to Mr. Thomson-Glover’s holiday cottage. Some parents complained that trips were only for favourites.

There was a lack of confidence in the complaints system by families in the late 2000’s – they did not want to “rock the boat” in case it was taken out on a pupil. The headteacher and Mr. Thomson-Glover seemed to be friends.
