

Allerton Grange School USG (Urban Street Gang) Strategy April 2023

Strategy Author: Sarah Whittingham, Assistant Headteacher

This strategy should be read in conjunction with: Allerton Grange Policy for Positive Discipline (Behaviour Policy) Allerton Grange Child Protection Policy **Purpose**: The purpose of this strategy is to provide a safe and secure environment for all students, staff and visitors at our school. The strategy outlines our approach towards addressing gang culture and sets out our commitment to promoting a culture of respect, diversity and tolerance.

Definition of Gang Culture: Gang culture refers to any group of individuals who engage in illegal or anti-social activities, such as serious violence, intimidation, threats, drug abuse, and theft. This strategy seeks to address any form of gang-related activity within our school community.

Prevention:

- 1. Education: The school will provide education to students on the dangers of gang culture, including its impact on their education, future prospects, and the wider community. Speakers will come in to deliver specialist, age appropriate assemblies. Appropriate resources will be prepared and included in our PSHCE curriculum.
- 2. Intervention: The school will establish intervention programs where professionals conduct one to one sessions with vulnerable students, guiding them on positive behaviour and lifestyle choices. The school will work with other local schools and the Police to identify students linked to gang affiliation or at risk of becoming linked. Students causing concern will be placed on a matrix and colour coded red, amber and green according to the level of risk. When necessary, parents/carers will be invited in and a risk assessment produced in order to minimise risk within our school community. Parents/carers and students will be asked to sign and adhere to the risk assessment. This will likely involve random searches of those students causing concern. All searches on young people will be logged and records retained, including the purpose of the search. Searches will be conducted by two colleagues, one being the same gender as the student. This is to protect the wellbeing and safety of the young person being searched.
- 3. **Outreach**: The school will work with local community organisations and the Police to support outreach programs that prevent gang recruitment, raise awareness of the consequences of gang involvement and provide alternative opportunities for young people. The school is working with a Community Tackle It Project who specialise in mentoring students coded amber and red. The school also has access to an Education Inclusion Mentor, part of the national government SAFE taskforce, who will deliver one to one sessions with targeted young people coded green.

Response:

- 1. **Reporting**: Students, staff, parents/carers and visitors within our school community are encouraged to report any suspicion of gang-related activity to the school via email, telephone or CPOMs. All reports will be investigated, and appropriate action will be taken, which may include involving the Police and/or Social Services. Posters and resources will be displayed around the school.
- 2. **Discipline**: Any student found to be involved in gang activity within or outside the school premises will be subject to consequences in line with our Policy for Positive Discipline (school behaviour policy). This is likely to be a suspension and/or other measures deemed necessary to safeguard the school community. Risk assessments will be produced and adhered to for identified students. Any gang related intelligence will be shared with the Police.
- 3. **Support**: The school will provide support to students who may be at risk of gang involvement or affected by gang activity. This may include counselling, mentoring or referral to external support services. Parents/carers can also be signposted for support. Some helpful links are attached to this strategy.

Communication: The school will communicate this strategy to all students, parents/carers, staff, and visitors through induction programs, school newsletters, and the school website. The strategy will be reviewed annually and updated as required.

Conclusion: This strategy reflects the school's commitment to providing a safe and secure environment for all members of the school community. By working together, we can prevent and address gang culture and promote a culture of respect, diversity, and tolerance.

https://crimestoppers-uk.org/fearless

https://cfydc.org.uk/causes/gps-gang-parents-support/

https://www.familylives.org.uk/advice/teenagers/behaviour/gangs

Staff Responsibilities

Stakeholders – Strategy overview	-	Mike Roper Headteacher
Curriculum – PHSE	-	Monisha Mahoney/ Natalie Drew
Personal Development – Assemblies	-	Key Stage Directors
Safeguarding – Students and Staff	-	Sarah Whittingham
Police Intelligence Portal	-	Sarah Whittingham
Liaison with external agencies	-	Sarah Whittingham Ruth Rowbotham
Policy for Positive Discipline update	-	Key Stage Directors
		Sarah Whittingham
Duties/Intervention Expectations	-	Senior Leadership Team