**Deaf & MSI Protocol for Reporting Procedures Following a Disclosure from a Deaf Child**

When a disclosure is made by a child / young person to a member of staff in school and that pupil uses British Sign Language as their mode of communication the following procedure must be followed:

* Deaf child makes disclosure - if possible have a Deaf member of staff present to ensure communication has been understood as accurately as possible, however following safeguarding protocols, do not stop a child in order to fetch a deaf person
* If disclosure is made without deaf member of staff present and you are unsure what is being communicated, once your discussion with the child has finished, Speak to a Deaf member of staff (DSL if possible). That person will then be able to sensitively broach the subject and verify what the child / young person has said.
* Record on appropriate paperwork / CPOMS what has been disclosed.
* Report to Designated Safeguarding Lead / named person in the resourced provision OR Head teacher of the school.
* Follow usual school safeguarding procedures.
* Ensure that you advocate for the Deaf child and that those dealing with the incident make arrangements for the child to access any follow up meetings – e.g ensure BSL interpreter / Deaf Relay Interpreter is present at ALL times

IS THERE A SOCIAL WORKER ALREADY INVOLVED? YES NO

Follow usual School procedures and report to contact point on **01274 435600.**

When reporting you must make it very clear that the child / young person is Deaf and uses British Sign Language and that contact point need to ensure that a qualified BSL interpreter is present for ANY social work / police meeting / interview with the child / young person.

Share the service document ‘Working with Deaf Children – Guide for Social Workers’ with the social worker

Report the disclosure to the Social Worker. You cannot leave a message on an answerphone, you MUST speak to someone.

If you are unable to speak to someone then you must report to contact point on **01274 435600**

**The Local Authority Led Resourced Provision Lead Teacher or other appropriate member of RP staff can be present at interview / meeting as a familiar person to the child / young person but MUST not act as the Interpreter.**

**It is the responsibility of the Social Worker / Police to ensure they have an appropriate interpreter present at the Interview. You can advise them of how to book an interpreter via Morley Street**

**IT IS ONLY PERMISSABLE FOR QUALIFIED BSL / ENGLISH INTERPRETERS TO INTERPRET A POLICE INTERVIEW / SOCIAL CARE INTERVIEW.**

**IT IS ALSO SERVICE PROTOCOL TO ENSURE THAT THESE OUTSIDE AGENCIES WORK WITH YOU TO ENSURE A DEAF ADULT IS PRESENT TO ACT AS A RELAY INTERPRETER – this can be one of our approved Deaf Instructors (Susie Farrar – Senior DI can advise).**

**If the child is on the active caseload of YAIS and a CP Case Conference is going to take place – Please inform Safeguarding Lead (Currently Jeni Bickley) at YAIS of the Social Worker NOT the details of the disclosure.**