

Barlows Primary School

Escalation Policy

Barlows Primary School



"To Give of our Best"

2017-2018

Reviewed and updated: July 2017
Approved by Governing Body: September 2017

"To give of our best, to work together, to value everyone and learn for life."

National Teaching School
designated by
National College for
Teaching & Leadership



North Liverpool
Teaching School Partnership



Eco-Schools



**Barlows Primary School:
Escalation Policy**

This policy considers where there is (**Schools should also consult the LSCB's escalation Policy on their website**):

1. Disagreement internally within the school as to the need for a referral
2. Disagreement about Children's Services' (Careline) decision to accept a referral
3. Concerns about the progress of a Child in Need/ Child Protection Plan
4. Disagreement about the need to put into place a Child Protection Plan at Case Conference or to remove a child from a plan

1. Disagreement internally within the school as to the need for a referral

In situations where the Designated Safeguarding Lead **does not** believe a referral to Children's Services (Careline) is appropriate and this decision is **questioned** by a member of staff, then Careline **should always** be contacted and the information/concerns shared.

It is important to remember Keeping Children in Education (DFE 2016) makes it clear that any member of staff can make a referral to Children's Services (Careline).

You can seek advice from the early hubs/consultative social workers too.

2. Disagreement about CARELINE's decision to accept a referral

You have been told that your referral does not meet the level 4 of the LSCB Levels of Need Framework. If you do not agree with the decision of Careline (on behalf of Children's Services) not to accept a Child in Need or Child Protection Referral **you have a responsibility to escalate your concerns:**

Have you completed the on-line multi-agency referral form (M.A.R.F.)? This is the required 'written submission' to support your initial telephone contact. This form provides considerable holistic information that will provide a greater context to your referral and will enable Children's Services to have all the information they need to make an informed judgement as to whether it meets the 'threshold'. This is particularly important if they are historic concerns related to the family. Are there any other agencies/schools that support your concerns/referral?

When summarising your concerns always provide a chronology of key events. Draw upon the LSCB Levels of Need Framework matching and evidencing your written concerns to the criteria. Draw upon the statutory definitions of section 17 or section 47 assessments (child in need and child protection)

Take the following steps when escalating your concerns to Children's Services:

- a. Ask to speak to the Careline social worker who has made the decision. The advisor who answered the call should never refuse this request.
- b. If there is no agreement ask to speak to a Careline Team Leader.

- c. If there is no agreement put your concerns in writing to the Careline Service Manager:
mike.evans@liverpooldirectlimited.co.uk tel: 0151 225 2045
- d. Seek advice from phil.cooper@liverpool.gov.uk

School Improvement Liverpool © Phil Cooper

Policy Created: July 2017

Ratified by Governors: **First Full Governors Meeting**

Policy to be reviewed: September 2018