Longman's Hill CP School Self-Harm Policy

Self-Harm Policy	Longman's Hill CP School	
Document Status	Approved Policy	
Date of next review	October 2023	Responsibility Full Governing board
Date of Policy Creation	October 2025	Responsibility Chair of Governors
Date of Policy Adoption by Governing Body	October 2025	
Method of Communication (e.g. Website, etc.)	Website on safeguarding page	

1. Introduction and Context

1.1 Recent research indicates that up to one in ten young people in the UK engage in self-harming behaviours, and that this figure is higher amongst specific populations, including young people with special educational needs. School staff can play an important role in preventing self-harm, building resilience and supporting pupils, peers and parents of pupils currently engaging in self-harm.

2. Purpose

2.1 This document is a policy for staff working in this school who may be supporting pupils who self-harm.

3. Aims

3.1 To adhere to the NYCC Self-Harm Guidance protocol, which can be found here Self-Harm Pathway guidance NYC

3.2 To develop outstanding practice within this school to help and support pupils who self-harm.

4. Definition of Self-Harm

4.1 Self-harm is any behaviour where the intent is to deliberately cause harm to one's own body.

5. Roles and responsibilities

The Governing Body

5.1 The governing body has the legal duty to safeguard and promote the welfare of their pupils. We have a named governor with responsibility for safeguarding who will have an oversight for provision for pupils who self-harm.

The Headteacher

5.2 The Headteacher has responsibility for establishing effective safeguarding procedures with regard to self-harm, thereby ensuring the duty of care of pupils and staff.

Staff

5.3 Pupils may choose to confide in any member of school staff if they are concerned about their own welfare, or that of a peer. We promote the idea of 'trusted adults' at longman's Hill; pupils know that they can choose to speak to any staff member, if they have worries or concerns about themselves, or someone else.

Referral procedures are outlined within our Child Protection Policy and advised by KCSIE and the Child Protection Manual.

5.4 This includes all staff being aware of the North Yorkshire pathway of support for children and young people who deliberately self-harm. Link in 3.1 of this policy.

6. Training

6.1 Staff will adhere to the guidelines in the NYC Self-harm pathway document. Staff giving support to pupils who self-harm may experience all sorts of reactions to this behaviour in pupils (e.g. anger, helplessness, rejection); it is helpful for staff to have an opportunity to talk this through, and they can do with the headteacher Mrs J Elcock.

6.2 Staff taking this role should adhere to Child Protection procedures and understand fully their duties around setting boundaries around Confidentiality.

7. Monitoring and Evaluation

7.1 The designated governor who has responsibility for safeguarding will monitor the systems regularly and following any incident of self-harm.

7.2 Policy reviewed on: October 2025

7.3 Due for renewal / review : October 2028
By: Full Governing Board