



# **Keeping Children Safe in School: Child Protection within Safeguarding Policy**

## **Designated Safeguarding Leads**

Mrs Rachel Somerville

Mrs Helen Potter

## **Deputy Safeguarding Leads**

Mrs Kathleen Clarke

Mr David Wheelhouse

## Introduction

In light of experience and best practice, the effectiveness of this policy will be monitored annually and reviewed every three years. This mechanism recognises that changes in legislation may prompt a review of the policy before the three years stipulated.

We are committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people, and expect all staff, partners and volunteers to share this commitment.

This policy applies to all activities undertaken by the Academy in pursuing its purpose as an educational institution whilst serving its students, community and wider stakeholder interests.

All policies are subject to Equality Impact Assessments. Equality Impact Assessments are carried out to see whether the policy has, or is likely to have, a different impact on grounds of race, gender, disability, age, religion or sexual orientation.

If you require this document in an alternative format and/or language, please contact our Executive Support Officer, Mrs Christine Connolly.

We are always keen to hear suggestions regarding Academy policies.

To make suggestions or to see further information please contact:

### Executive Support Officer

Telephone: 01207 507001  
Email: [dpo@ncdat.org.uk](mailto:dpo@ncdat.org.uk)

## Footnote

In an effort to keep costs to a minimum, a conscious decision has been made not to print out this document and it would be appreciated that you refer to the copy and relevant Appendices available on the Website/VLE.

## Contents

<b>Section</b>	<b>Item</b>	<b>Page</b>
1.	Rationale & Aim	4
2.	Objectives	5
3.	Strategies	5
4.	Roles & Responsibilities	6
5.	Standards by which the success of this policy can be evaluated	7
6.	History of Policy Reviews	7
7.	Associated Documentation	8

# 1. Rationale & Aim

## Rationale

Children maximise their potential in an environment, which is safe, secure and supportive of all their needs, including any needs they have for protection from abuse.

Consett Academy is committed to promoting the welfare of all students by working in partnership with parents and carers, the Local Authority (LA) and multi-agency partners in early help and child protection, in accordance with locally agreed Local Safeguarding Children Board procedures and practices.

Our policy applies to members of the Academy community in its widest sense. Thus, this includes children and young people, their parents/carers, Academy staff, governors, visitors, specialist staff, and the local and wider community where they interface with the Academy. Within its framework, the policy outlines entitlements and responsibilities in securing the protection of students who attend the Academy.

## Aim

### **In order to achieve our rationale, staff will:**

- accept that all of our young people are vulnerable, but some have increasing levels of vulnerability due their needs and experiences (e.g. SEND, LAC, Disadvantaged);
- work in partnership with students, parents, carers and external agencies to ensure the welfare and well-being of each child is of paramount importance;
- respect and value each child as an individual;
- strive to ensure the Academy runs in an open, transparent way.

## 2. Objectives

### **In order to achieve our aims, staff will:**

- reinforce that our policy works on the premise that abuse takes place in all communities and that Academy staff are particularly well placed to identify and refer concerns and also to act to prevent children and young people from being abused;
- endeavour to make sure we are a listening Academy, and encourage an environment where students feel free to talk, knowing that they will be listened to;
- ensure the protection of students from abuse is a whole-Academy issue, and the responsibility therefore of the entire Academy community;
- ensure our policy is accessible in terms of understanding and availability.
- develop and update our policy with information from our relevant partners in early help and child protection as well as national documentation issued by HM Government and The Department for Education;
- use the curriculum to resource our students to protect themselves from abuse, both as victims and as potential perpetrators.

## 3. Strategies

### **To ensure progress against these objectives, staff will:**

- ensure their knowledge of safeguarding requirements is current and relevant and they have read and understood the most up to date '*Keeping Children Safe in Education*' DfE guidelines, Sept 2020;
- establish a safe environment in which students can learn and develop;
- be subject to safer recruitment in checking the suitability of staff and volunteers to work with students;
- undertake training and receive support so to equip them to appropriately recognise, respond to and support students who are vulnerable and may be in need of safeguarding;

- ensure they are abreast of safeguarding issues, boosting resilience and equipping students with the skills needed to keep them safe;
- understand and implement procedures for identifying and reporting cases, or suspected cases, of abuse;
- treat all safeguarding disclosures in a professional way and respond in a timely fashion in order to maintain the health, safety and well-being of the young person.

#### **4. Roles & Responsibilities**

**The Company Secretary will ensure:**

all policies are kept up to date.

**The Executive Principal will:**

monitor and evaluate the policy.

**Senior leaders will ensure that:**

the policy is upheld by both staff and students and that the processes are applied consistently for all. The nominated Senior Leader will also keep accurate records on how/when the policy is implemented.

**Achievement Leaders, Year Managers and other Pastoral Support Staff will ensure that:**

safeguarding disclosures are responded to and dealt with in a professional manner and a timely fashion, and keeping accurate logs of any incidents in CPOMS and referring incidents upwards. They will also act as the first point of contact or in some cases lead professional in Child Protection Conferences, Strategy meetings, TAFs and other multi-agency meetings.

**All teachers/staff will:**

implement the policy consistently and ensure students are listened to in a professional and caring manner, observing the protocols of managing a disclosure and the appropriate referral of disclosures in a timely fashion. They

will also monitor those students for whom disclosures have been made to ensure any other key pieces of information are shared with the appropriate safeguarding staff member.

## **5. Standards by which the success of this policy can be evaluated**

- analysis of the numbers of referrals of incidents and students subject to monitoring;
- the numbers of students subject to Child Protection Plans, Child in Need, Team Around the Family;
- the quality of support offered to students for whom disclosures have been made.

## **6. History of Policy Reviews**

<b>Implementation Date</b>	<b>September 2019</b>
<b>1<sup>st</sup> Review Date</b>	<b>Feb 2020</b>
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Review Date</b>	<b>Feb 2021</b>
<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Review Date</b>	

## 7. Associated Documentation

This Policy and its accompanying Policy into Practice are underpinned and shaped by the relevant legislation and guidance including:

- The Children Act 1989; Children Act 2004;
- The Education Act 2002; Education and Inspections Act 2006;
- Working Together to Safeguard Children 2018;
- The Local Safeguarding Children Board (LSCB) procedures ([www.durham-lscb.org.uk](http://www.durham-lscb.org.uk));
- What to do if you're worried a child is being abused – DfE 2015;
- Keeping Children Safe in Education. Statutory guidance for schools and colleges. September 2020;
- Use of reasonable force. Advice for head teachers, staff and governing bodies. DfE. July 2013;
- County Durham Practice Framework: Single Assessment Procedures and Practice Guidance August 2016;
- Confidential Reporting Code, (Durham Schools Extranet; Documents Library/HR);
- A Guide for Professionals on the Sharing of Information  
County Durham Safeguarding Adults Inter-Agency Partnership and  
Durham Local Safeguarding Children Board;
- Operating Procedures for children and young people who either go missing from home or go missing from Care. Durham Constabulary and Durham County Council September 2016;
- Prevent Duty Guidance: for England and Wales HM Government 2015;
- The Prevent duty Departmental advice for schools and childcare providers Department for Education July 2015.