



# SAFEGUARDING STATEMENT

This statement is informed by the Christian values which are the basis for all of CDAT's work and any actions taken under this statement and the policies that it informs will reflect this.

*'Blessed are those who act justly, who always do what is right'*

*Psalm 106:3*

## 1. Introduction

CDAT's first priority is the responsibility to safeguard and promote the welfare of all our students. As a Trust that works across a number of local authorities (LAs), we recognise that the key statutory duties for safeguarding are held at a local level through Safeguarding Partnership arrangements.

It is therefore appropriate that policy in respect of safeguarding and child protection is led at a local level. It is the responsibility of each school to personalise and implement such a policy. **Each individual school is responsible for ensuring compliance with its local Safeguarding Partnership arrangements, procedures and policies and for publishing its own safeguarding and child protection policy in accordance with statutory requirements.** Each school is also expected to comply with the latest requirements as laid out in KCSIE:

[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/1161273/Keeping\\_children\\_safe\\_in\\_education\\_2023\\_-\\_statutory\\_guidance\\_for\\_schools\\_and\\_colleges.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/1161273/Keeping_children_safe_in_education_2023_-_statutory_guidance_for_schools_and_colleges.pdf)

## 2. Implementation

The Trust will ensure that all CDAT schools:

- Have a Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) who has overall accountability for safeguarding in their school.
- Have suitable arrangements to ensure that a deputy DSL is available to cover for the absence of the nominated DSL.
- Have a named governor for Safeguarding.
- That both DSL and deputy DSL receive training that at least matches statutory requirements of the role.
- Ensure that all staff and governors receive regular training on best practice in Safeguarding and that this training reflects the latest requirements of the government's 'Keeping Children Safe in Education' series of publications.
- Have in place safeguarding arrangements which are designed to take account of all possible safeguarding issues including Child Sexual Exploitation, FGM (Female Genital Mutilation) and Preventing Radicalisation.
- Adhere to safer recruitment practices and that at least one member of any recruitment panel organised by the school has completed Safer Recruitment training within the recommended timescale.
- Maintain high-quality, accurate and secure records of any safeguarding concerns and incidents – taking account of all relevant Data Protection requirements.

- Have arrangements for working together with other agencies and for sharing information with other professionals.
- Take account of their local authority's procedures and practices established by the Local Safeguarding Children's Board (LCSB) and its successor Safeguarding Partnership, and comply with any requests from local safeguarding partners.
- Have in place effective policies covering Safeguarding & Child Protection, including whistleblowing.
- Develop a culture of listening to children and take account of their wishes and feelings.
- Teach children the skills they need to help safeguard themselves, including online safety through teaching and learning opportunities as part of a broad and balanced curriculum.
- Fulfil all their statutory responsibilities in respect of safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children.

The Trust will:

- Ensure that members of the Central Team and Board members receive regular safeguarding updates and undertake safeguarding training to keep them up-to-date with best practice and statutory requirements.
- Monitor the effectiveness of schools' safeguarding arrangements as part of the standard programme of regular school improvement, compliance checking and health & safety visits.

### 3. Policy Review

This statement was updated and agreed by the CDAT Board in September 2023. In line with recommended best practice, it will be reviewed again in September 2024.