

Child Protection Policy

September 2022



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1 IMPORTANT CONTACT INFORMATION

DESIGNATED SENIOR SAFEGUARDING LEAD

One Education DSL 's are Chris Boden, and Jess Lane are points of contact in relation to any safeguarding matters. If the concern is about another staff member or if an allegation is made, please contact the HR Director Rachel Foster on **07818038686**.

The executive team member responsible for safeguarding children is **Rachel Foster who** can be contacted on **07919038686**.

TEAM DESIGNATED SAFEGUARDING LEADS

Education Psychology

Sarah McIntosh, Ben Powell, Mehmet Agdiran

Education Welfare & Safeguarding

Alyson Knowles

School Development and Literacy

Jo Gray , Helen Marriot

HR

Evette Hudson

2 INTRODUCTION

- 2.1 Putting children first is at the heart of One Education, One Education believes that children and young people have the right to be safe and free from abuse of any kind and recognises its responsibility to safeguard the welfare of all children and young people, by a commitment to practice which protects them.
- 2.2 We recognise that:
- The welfare of the child/young person is paramount
 - All children and young people have an equal right to protection from abuse, regardless of their age, culture, disability, gender, language, racial origin, religious belief, sexual orientation or identity
 - Working in partnership with schools and academies, parents/carers and other agencies is an important factor of promoting the welfare of children and young people.

3 PURPOSE

- 3.1 One Education provides specialist services to schools, academies, settings and local authorities, this brings us in to day to day contact with children, young people and their families. Therefore, our employees, volunteers, casuals and associates are well placed to observe the outward signs of abuse and neglect and be in a position to support those who may have been abused, neglected or are considered to be at risk of significant harm.
- 3.2 The purpose of this policy is:
- To provide protection to children and young people receiving a service from One Education
 - To provide employees, volunteers, casuals and associates with procedures for identifying and reporting cases, or suspected cases, of actual abuse, neglect or where a child or young person is considered to be at risk of significant harm
 - To ensure that all adults in One Education are working together to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and young people.
- 3.3 This policy applies to all employees, volunteers, casuals and associates working on behalf of One Education. When using these procedures, reference should be made to the One Education Child protection procedures (2021).

4 IMPLEMENTATION

- 4.1 The Children Act 1989 provides the framework for the care and protection of children up to their 18th birthday. It defines parental responsibility and encourages partnership working with parents. The Children Act 2004 supplements the 1989 Act and strengthens the duty placed on all organisations working with children to work together to safeguard and promote the welfare of children. The Education Act 2002 further

reinforces this duty. One Education will have full regard to the statutory guidance set out in HM Government 'Working together to safeguard children' (2020) and DfE 'Keeping children safe in education' (2022), and in doing so will work in partnership with other organisations where appropriate to identify any concerns about child welfare and take timely action to address them.

- 4.2 The Counter Terrorism and Security Act 2015, places a duty on all schools and specified public facing bodies in the exercise of their functions, to have "due regard to the need to prevent people from being drawn in to terrorism". One Education recognises this as part of its wider safeguarding duties and the similarities in nature to protecting children from other forms of harm and abuse.
- 4.3 Female genital mutilation is illegal in England and Wales under the FGM Act 2003 (as amended by the Serious Crime Act 2015). It is a form of child abuse and violence against women which comprises of procedures involving partial or total removal of the external female genitalia for non-medical reasons. This Act places a duty on all teachers and professionals to report to the police if they suspect a child under the age of 18 is at risk of or has undergone female genital mutilation.
- 4.4 One Education aims to create and maintain a safe environment where all children and adults feel safe, secure and valued and know they will be listened to and taken seriously. One Education is committed to implementing policies, practices and procedures which promote safeguarding and the emotional and physical well-being of children, young people and staff.
- 4.5 Where it is appropriate, One Education employees, volunteers, casuals and associates will contribute to early help assessments. This may be where their work brings them in to contact with children and families who would benefit from co-ordinated support from more than one agency.
- 4.6 In seeking to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and young people, One Education will:
 - Put children first by valuing, listening to and respecting them
 - Adopt child protection procedures and safer working practices policy for all employees, volunteers, casuals and associates
 - Develop effective management systems and arrangements that will create and maintain a safe learning environment for all our children, young people, employees, volunteers, casuals and associates
 - Support the prevention of abuse through the teaching and sharing of information about child protection and safe practice with children, young people and their families
 - Ensure that all recruitment and selection processes adhere to the guidance contained in DfE 'Keeping children safe in education' (2022).
- 4.7 Safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people goes beyond implementing basic child protection procedures. It is an integral part of all activities and functions of One Education. This policy complements and supports other relevant One Education policies and procedures.

- 4.8 This policy will be reviewed annually and in the month of September by the One Education Executive Team.

5 FURTHER GUIDANCE

- 5.1 Further guidance can be found in the following documents on 'The One' intranet site:
- One Education child protection procedures (2021)
 - One Education Employee Code of Conduct (2013)
 - One Education Safer working practices policy (2018)
 - Greater Manchester Safeguarding children procedures manual (2019)
 - DfE, Keeping children safe in education (2022)
 - HM Government, Working Together to Safeguard Children: A guide to inter-agency working to safeguard and promote the welfare of children (2020)
 - HM Government, What To Do If You're Worried A Child Is Being Abused (2015)
 - HM Government, Information Sharing: Advice for practitioners providing safeguarding services to children, young people, parents and carers (2018)
 - DfE, The Prevent duty (2019)
 - Home Office, Mandatory Reporting of Female Genital Mutilation – procedural information (2015).

Kieran McDermott, One Education Chief Executive
Stuart Fern Acting CEO April 2023
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