

**OVERARCHING SAFEGUARDING STATEMENT**
**Approved by:** Cumbria Education Trust Board

**Date:** September 2018

**Review Date:** Annually

**Owner:** Infrastructure and Assurance Director

<b>Version Number</b>	<b>Version Description</b>	<b>Date of Revision</b>
1	Original	September 2015
2	Updated to include additional information relating to the 'Prevent Duty', CSE, CME etc. Change in title of former 'LADO' to 'DO' throughout	Nov 2015
3	Minor updates throughout	May 2016
4	Updated as a result of publication of 'Keeping Children Safe in Education – September 2016	17 October 2016
5	Minor Updates as a result of changes to EYFS statutory framework April 2017	September 2017
6	Updated as a result of publication of 'Keeping Children Safe in Education', September 2018 and Working Together to Safeguard Children, July 2018	September 2018

## Introduction

This Safeguarding Statement has been developed in accordance with the principles established by the Children Acts 1989 and 2004 and related guidance. This includes the DfE statutory guidance 'Keeping Children Safe in Education', September 2018, the DfE revised Statutory Framework for Early Years Foundation Stage, April 2017 and Working Together to Safeguard Children, July 2018. The Trust will also refer to, and follow, the guidance and procedures developed by the Cumbria Safeguarding Children's Board (SCB).

Because of our close day to day contact with children, education staff have a crucial role to play in helping to promote safety, reduce risks and to identify welfare concerns and indicators of possible abuse and neglect at an early stage.

The Trust and all staff take seriously our responsibility under Section 157 of the Education Act 2002 to safeguard and promote the welfare of our pupils/students, to minimise risk and to work together with other agencies to ensure adequate arrangements are in place within our academies to identify, assess and support those children who are suffering harm and to keep them safe and secure whilst in our care.

Our Statement and safeguarding related Policies and procedures apply to all members of the Trust community including pupils/students, staff, board members, visitors, volunteers and trainees working within the Trust. It is fully incorporated into the Trust's ethos and is underpinned throughout the teaching of the curriculum and within PD (Personal Development) and within the safety of the physical environment provided for the pupils/students.

## Definition of Safeguarding

'Working together to Safeguard Children' defines the term Safeguarding as "protecting children from maltreatment; preventing impairment of children's health or development; ensuring that children are growing up in circumstances consistent with the provision of safe and effective care and taking action to enable all children to have the best outcomes".

Safeguarding is not just about protecting children from deliberate harm. It relates to aspects of school life including pupils' health, safety and wellbeing; managing behaviour and the use of reasonable force; meeting the needs of pupils with medical conditions; providing first aid; educational visits; intimate care and emotional wellbeing; internet and online safety; and appropriate arrangements to ensure school security, taking into account the local context.

It includes issues for academies such as bullying, including cyberbullying (by text message, on social networking sites, and so on) and prejudice-based bullying; racist, disability, and homophobic or transphobic abuse; radicalisation and/or extremist behaviour; children missing education; child sexual exploitation; sexting; teenage relationship abuse; substance misuse; issues that may be specific to a local area or population, for example gang activity and youth violence; and particular issues affecting children including domestic violence, female genital mutilation, forced marriage, fabricated or induced illness and poor parenting, particularly in relation to young children. (*Inspecting Safeguarding in Early Years, Education and Skills – August 2016*).

This Safeguarding Statement should thus be understood alongside other Trust and academy Policies and procedures which fall under the safeguarding 'umbrella' as listed on Page 4 of this document. Related policies can be found on the relevant academy's website.

The Trust Board will have a member specifically assigned as Designated Safeguarding Director and Designated Director for Child Protection. Each Local Advisory Board will have a member specifically assigned as Designated Safeguarding Member and Designated Member for Child Protection. All relevant policies will be reviewed in accordance with the latest DfE Guidance by the Trust Audit and Risk Committee which has responsibility for oversight of Trust safeguarding and child protection systems. The Designated Safeguarding Member will ensure regular reporting on safeguarding activity and systems in Trust academies to the Trust Board. The Trust will not receive details of individual pupil/student situations or identifying features of families as part of their

oversight responsibility. The Designated Safeguarding Member is also the Designated Member for Child Protection. The Designated Safeguarding Member for each LAB will liaise with the Designated Director and Trust CEO from the Trust Board in the event of allegations of abuse made against the Headteacher. In the event of allegations of abuse being made against the Head teacher the allegation should be reported directly to the Trust CEO. Referrals to the Local Authority Designated Officer will then be determined.

The Trust is a community and all those directly connected (staff, Board Member, parents, families and pupils/students) have an essential role to play in making it safe and secure. We welcome suggestions and comments from all these stakeholders contributing to this process.

## **Ethos**

The Trust recognises the importance of providing and promoting an ethos and environment within the academies that will help children to feel safe, secure and respected; encourage them to talk openly; and enable them to feel confident that they will be listened to.

We recognise that children who are abused or witness violence are likely to have low self-esteem and may find it difficult to develop a sense of self-worth. They may feel helplessness, humiliation and some sense of blame. The academy which they attend may be the only stable, secure and predictable element in their lives.

The Trust and its academies will endeavour to support the welfare and safety of all students through our comprehensive suite of safeguarding related policies (see overleaf).

## **Partnerships with others**

The Trust recognises that it is essential to establish positive and effective working relationships with other agencies. The Trust endeavours to work with a range of external agencies where available and has links with the Local Authority, the School Health Service, the local police, Children's Centres and Children's Services.

We recognise the importance of information sharing between professionals and local agencies and take account of guidance issued in 'Working together to safeguard children' and 'Information sharing: Advice for practitioners providing safeguarding services to children, young people, parents and carers'.

Where it is believed that a child is suffering from, or is at risk of, significant harm, we will follow the procedures as outlined on the Local Safeguarding Children Board website and within the ***Trust and Academy's Child Protection Policy and procedures***.

## **Training and Support**

The Trust will ensure that appropriate training is in place throughout the organisation. It will ensure that the respective Designated Safeguarding Leads (and Deputy DSLs) undergo suitable child protection training which is updated every 2 years; all staff including the Head teacher, the designated teacher (children looked after), the Designated LAB Member and the LAB members undergo safeguarding and child protection induction training relevant to their roles which is updated regularly. All other staff who work in the school and/or with children will undertake appropriate child protection and safeguarding awareness training to equip them to meet their responsibilities to safeguard children effectively.

The Designated Safeguarding Lead will undertake Prevent Awareness Training to enable them to provide advice and support to other members of staff on protecting children from the risk of radicalisation. Other staff to receive this training will be determined through risk assessment. Designated Health and Safety Co-Ordinators in schools will receive training in relation to their role.

Although now no longer a legal requirement, in accordance with good practice guidelines, academies will ensure that designated Educational Visits Co-Ordinator receive training in planning and managing off-site visits.

Academies will have a staff training plan in place to ensure all relevant staff receive appropriate training as per legislative requirements and good practice to protect both themselves and children. Designated staff training will include for example health and safety induction, first aid, supporting pupils with medical needs including general awareness training, training in the administration of medication and any training regarding complex medical needs of children (from a medical professional as necessary); asbestos management, fire safety, positive handling, moving and handling, minibuses drivers, risk assessment, food hygiene, safe use of machinery and other training commensurate with the roles and responsibilities of staff.

### **Professional Confidentiality**

The Trusts confidentiality requirements are in line with the DfE 'Information Sharing – Guidance for Safeguarding Practitioners', July 2018.

### **Safe Recruitment and Selection**

The Trust pays full regard to the DfE statutory guidance 'Keeping Children Safe in Education' (September 2018). We will deter and prevent people who pose a risk of harm from working with children by adhering to statutory responsibilities to carry out appropriate checks on staff or others who work (paid or unpaid) unsupervised with children, taking proportionate decisions on whether to ask for any checks beyond what is required; and ensuring those without full checks are appropriately supervised. The Trust Board has a written Recruitment and Selection Policy in place. In line with the School Staffing (England) Regulations 2009 the Trust Board will ensure that at least one person on any appointment panel has attended Safer Recruitment training.

Further details can be found in the ***Trust/Academy's Child Protection Policy and procedures and the Trust Recruitment & Selection Policy.***

### **Related Trust / Academy Policy and Procedures**

***(to be read and followed alongside this document)***

- Child Protection Policy and procedures
- Health and Safety Policy and procedures
- Online/E-Safety Policy and procedures
- Relationships/Behaviour Policy including procedures for preventing and dealing with Bullying and Racism, Use of Reasonable Force, drug misuse etc.
- Peer on Peer Abuse Policy
- Sex Education Policy
- Recruitment & Selection Policy including the Single Central Record (restricted access)
- Supporting Pupils with Medical Conditions Policy and Procedures
- Staff Code of Conduct for staff and others who work with children
- Single Equality Scheme/Equality Objectives
- Data Protection Policy
- SEN Information Report, SEND Policy and Accessibility Plan
- Guidance on the Use of Photographic Images
- Safeguarding, Health and Safety Induction procedures
- Positive Handling procedures
- Missing Child procedures
- Intimate Care procedures
- Educational Visits procedures
- First Aid and Accident procedures
- Risk Assessments (incl. Fire Safety)
- Premises Management including security measures (formal Inspections and Buildings Register/Maintenance records)
- Lettings Arrangements
- Safeguarding Children - Induction Leaflet for Visitors and Contractors