

Great Schools Trust - Safeguarding Guidelines

Date of Review: February 2017

Approved by: Trust Board

Next Review Date: September 2018

What is safeguarding?

Government guidance defines safeguarding children and promoting their welfare as:

- Protecting children from maltreatment;
- Preventing impairment of children's health or development;
- Ensuring that children grow up in circumstances consistent with the provision of safe and effective care;
- Enabling children to have optimum life chances and enter adulthood successfully.

The Great Schools Trust Multi Academy Trust (GST) aims to help keep children and young people safe by:

- Providing a safe environment for children and young people to learn;
- Identifying children and young people who are suffering or likely to suffer significant harm, and taking appropriate action with the aim of making sure they are kept safe both at home and at academy.

To achieve this, systems need to be in place to:

- Prevent unsuitable people working with children and young people;
- Promote safe practice and challenge poor and unsafe practice;
- Identify instances in which there are grounds for concern about a child's welfare and initiate or take appropriate action to keep them safe;
- Contribute to effective partnership working between all those involved with providing services for children and young people.

Trust Board

The Trust Board will ensure that all safeguarding policies are in place across the GST and reviewed as necessary. Additionally, the Trust Board will make decisions about serious safeguarding issues and determine appropriate action to be taken in line with statutory requirements, informing the Chair of local governing body as appropriate. A member of the Trust Board will be nominated as the safeguarding lead.

Local Governing Bodies will ensure that:

- All safeguarding policies are adhered to and are effective within the academy;
- The academy operates safe recruitment procedures;
- The chair of the governing body is identified as being the safeguarding lead within each academy, however this responsibility can be delegated to another governor if deemed appropriate;
- Any deficiencies or weaknesses in regard to child protection arrangements are remedied without delay and reported to the Trust Board;
- A Designated Lead Officer and Designated Officers for child protection are identified at each academy;
- The Designated Lead Officer (every 2 years), Designated Child Protection Officers and all other staff (on a regular basis and at an appropriate level) undertake training in Child Protection;
- The governing body has basic training in Child Protection on a regular basis.

The Academy Principal /Designated Lead will ensure that:

- Policies and procedures adopted by the Trust Board are fully implemented;
- Policies and procedures are followed by all staff and that staff understand their individual roles and responsibilities;
- All staff and volunteers feel able to raise concerns about poor or unsafe practice and that such concerns are addressed sensitively and effectively in accordance with whistle blowing policies;
- Safeguarding is part of the curriculum;
- Children and young people are listened to;
- Training in Child Protection is provided for all staff on a regular basis;
- Parents/carers are informed and updated re safeguarding policies and procedures;
- Attendance is effectively monitored and close liaison with the Director of Attendance and Welfare within the GST and Attendance and Welfare Officers within the academies is established.

Partnerships

- Staff and students on GST partnership sites will follow the host academy's policies and procedures for Health and Safety and Security but GST policies and procedures for Child Protection, Anti-Bullying and all other safeguarding policies.

Policies relating to Safeguarding and Child Protection

All GST policies which relate to Safeguarding and Child Protection can be found on individual academy websites for access. All policies are reviewed in line with the requirements of each policy as stated.

Kings Leadership Academy Liverpool (insert link)

Kings Leadership Academy Warrington (insert link)

The Hawthorne's (insert link)

References

- Working together to Safeguard Children
- Keeping Children Safe in Education