

Name of Policy

SAFEGUARDING POLICY

Purpose

To ensure the College adopts practices that will support the safeguarding of students within its care.

Author / Job Title

Designated Safeguarding Lead

**Equality Assessment
By Whom**

Jonathan Disley

Date

July 2012

Version

5

**Date of next review
(month & year)**

03/2016

Approved by

	Date
Senior Manager	
SMT	11/05/2015
Corporation	7/07/2015 – minute 41/15 refers

**Related policies or
procedures or parent policy
if applicable
Related legislation**

Child & Adults at Risk Protection Policy and Procedures
Work Related Learning Policy
Health and Safety General Statement
Risk Assessment documentation
Safer Recruitment & Vetting Policy and Procedures
Tutorial Scheme of Work
Student Anti-Harassment and Bullying Policy
Staff Disciplinary Procedures
Student Disciplinary Procedures
E-Safety Policy
Social Media Policy
14-16 Safeguarding Statement
Keeping Children Safe in Education (2015)
Working Together to Safeguard Children (2015)
Prevent Duty Guidance 2015
CESCB Procedures Manual

**Groups/bodies consulted in
the development of the
policy**

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**To be published on College
website**

Yes

SAFEGUARDING POLICY

Purpose

The Government has defined the term 'safeguarding' as:

'The process of protecting children from abuse or neglect, preventing impairment of their health and development, and ensuring they are growing up in circumstances consistent with the provision of safe and effective care that enables children to have optimum life chances and enter adulthood successfully.'

The Corporation recognises it has a statutory and moral duty to ensure that Macclesfield College functions with a view to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of **ALL** students receiving education and training at the College. The College's Safeguarding Policy is approved by the Corporation. There is a nominated Member of the Corporation who receives additional training in Safeguarding matters and who is a Member of the Safeguarding Strategy Committee.

Scope: All students, staff, governors and visitors to the site

Responsibility: The Corporation
Principal
Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL)
Safeguarding Strategy Committee

Objectives

The objectives of Safeguarding are to help keep all students safe through:

- 1 The provision of a safe and healthy environment for students in which to learn
- 2 Delivering an appropriate safeguarding curriculum through tutorial and learning programmes
- 3 Ensuring Human Resources policies and procedures contain effective safeguarding measures
- 4 Appropriately meeting the needs of vulnerable students (those at risk of not achieving due to negative external factors or non-academic issues such as homelessness, cared for, care leavers or anyone that has required a risk assessment.)
- 5 Providing staff with safeguarding training consistent with their responsibilities.
- 6 Having appropriate measures in place to challenge and minimise the impact of bullying and harassment
- 7 Dealing effectively with concerns relating to the protection of children and adults at risk, including having due regard to the need to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism

POLICY

Safeguarding at a strategic level is led by the Principal with additional support from 6 Managers responsible for a specific area of safeguarding. The areas are:

- HR policies and practices – Head of Human Resources
- Every Learner Matters/Tutorial – Head of 14-19 Vocational Curriculum
- Protection of Children and Adults at Risk – Head of Student Services & Support
- Health and Safety – Vice Principal Finance & Resources
- Educational Visits/Work Placement – Vice Principal Curriculum and Quality
- E-Safety – Head of Information Technology, Learning Resources and E Learning

Please see Appendix 1 for the terms of reference for the Safeguarding Strategy Committee.

Confidentiality

Staff will be explicit at the beginning of a conversation with a student that confidentiality may not be possible. It will depend on the nature of the disclosure and its impact on the well-being and safety of the learner or other. The learner will be informed when information has to be passed on and will be encouraged to do this for themselves whenever this is possible.

The College will achieve the objectives of Safeguarding by ensuring:

HR policies and practices

- That robust Human Resources policies are adhered to and monitored through staff appraisals
- The practice of safe recruitment in checking the suitability of all staff, volunteers and service providers to work with all student groups, including identity checks and valid references is adhered to
- All governors, staff, volunteers and service providers have an up-to-date DBS check at the appropriate level compliant with the College's agreed HR policies. This also applies to College nominated governors of the Academy
- All staff are aware of what constitutes inappropriate relationships with students and that it is a criminal offence under the Sexual Offences Act 2003 (abuse of position of trust) to enter into a sexual relationship with students under 18, even if that relationship is consensual
- All staff, volunteers and governors have appropriate safeguarding training for their level of responsibility

Every Learner Matters

- The Anti-Bullying and Harassment and the Disciplinary policies and procedures are adhered to and monitored
- All students will receive tutorial support appropriate to their age, stage and programme and tutorial programmes are designed to support students' learning and development
- The establishment of a learning environment where students feel secure, are encouraged to talk and are listened to whilst they learn and develop
- That Parents/Carers are informed of the College's Safeguarding policy and Child Protection policy and procedures in a timely manner

Child Protection and Adults at Risk

- Separate Child and Adult at Risk Protection Policy and Procedures are adhered to
- All staff and volunteers understand their responsibilities in being alert to the signs of abuse and their responsibility for referring any concerns to the nominated manager
- Students are informed of the support available if they are worried or have concerns

Health and Safety

- Appropriate training and guidance is provided to all staff and students to ensure they understand their responsibilities
- Appropriate systems of inspection, monitoring and review are maintained
- That staff, students and visitors follow safe working practices at all times
- Health and Safety Inductions for all students are comprehensive and monitored

Work Placement

- That a robust Work Placement policy and procedures are adhered to and monitored
- That staff and students are provided with the appropriate training and students are supervised throughout their placement
- That all school pupils are provided with the appropriate guidance and support whilst on site and that staff are aware of the particular requirements of this cohort
- That all employers are fully briefed on their obligations relating to the College's Safeguarding Policy

E-Safety

- That a robust E-Safety policy and procedures are adhered to and monitored
- Students and staff are educated and supported in staying safe online which is the subject of a specific E-Safety Policy

Apprenticeship

- Apprentices are appropriately trained and risk assessed in the work place
- That all employers are fully briefed on their obligations relating to the College's Safeguarding Policy

SAFEGUARDING TRAINING

In all cases Human Resources will work with the Designated Safeguarding Lead to ensure that all staff receive the appropriate training in a timely manner and that all training is reviewed annually.

Training for staff will include the following:

- The Principal, nominated governor, nominated deputies and themselves attend the required multi agency Child Protection training and thereafter refresher training at 2 yearly intervals
- All full time and part time staff are provided with basic awareness training for Safeguarding at induction and receive additional training as appropriate (with a maximum of 3 years between sessions)
- Temporary (hourly paid) staff and volunteers are provided with information on the College's arrangements for Safeguarding and their personal responsibilities
- Training on the correct use of technology, how to identify hazards, how to deal with them and the safe working practices for social network sites.
- Training on safer recruitment procedures as appropriate
- Training on the Anti-Bullying and Harassment policy and procedures
- Training on the Disciplinary policy and procedures in conjunction with the Fitness to Study Policy
- Health and Safety inductions for new staff
- Training for staff on protocols relating to 14-16 year olds on site
- Training as appropriate for conducting risk assessments

Training for students will include:

- E-Safety Training
- Tutorials concerning Safeguarding and British Values

REVIEW & REPORTING

Strategic issues regarding Child Protection, Anti-Bullying and Harassment and Prevent issues will be discussed by the Safeguarding Strategy Committee termly to determine trends.

Child Protection, Anti-Bullying and Harassment and Prevent operational issues will be reported to the Senior Management Team monthly.

A termly report on how the College is achieving the objectives of the Safeguarding Policy will be presented to the Safeguarding Strategy Committee, Teaching & Learning Standards Committee and the Corporation.

This policy and related activity will be subject to an annual review by the Safeguarding Strategy Committee, which will make any appropriate recommendations to the Teaching and Learning Standards Committee and to the Corporation.

RECORD KEEPING

All records pertaining to Child Protection referrals will be kept in line with recommendations from the Cheshire East Local Safeguarding Board which is until their 25th birthday has been reached. An adult at risk referral for 8 years after the last point of contact with the student. The records will remain on site.

Anti-Bullying and Harassment records will be held centrally by the Head of Student Services & Support until the student leaves College at which point they will be added to the student file and retained in line with Data Protection Act guidelines.

Appendix 1 SAFEGUARDING STRATEGY COMMITTEE

TERMS OF REFERENCE

1. To review termly and assess the effectiveness and appropriateness of:
 - any activity related to the Safeguarding Policy
 - training undertaken by staff, volunteers and governors in relation to Safeguarding
 - the content of the Safeguarding Policy
 - the Safeguarding Action Plan
2. To agree the termly report on the above with recommendations for developments. The report to be received and the recommendations considered by the Safeguarding Strategy Committee and forwarded to Macclesfield College Corporation via the Teaching and Learning Standards Committee.

Proposed Membership

Principal (Chair)

Governor with responsibility for Safeguarding

Vice Principal for Curriculum and Quality (Strategic Safeguarding Lead)

Vice Principal for Finance and Resources

Head of Technology, Learning Resources and E-Learning

Head of Student Services and Support (Designated Safeguarding Lead/Prevent Officer)

Head of Quality & Professional Development

Head of 14-19 Vocational Curriculum

Head of Human Resources (as required on invite)

Appendix 2 DEFINITIONS OF ABUSE

Further information is available from Keeping Children Safe in Education March 2015.

Neglect

The persistent failure to meet a child's physical and psychological needs, likely to result in the serious impairment of their health or development. It may involve:

- failing to provide adequate food, shelter and clothing
- failing to protect a child from physical harm or danger
- failure to ensure access to appropriate medical care or treatment
- neglect of a child's basic emotional needs
- failure to ensure satisfactory education

Physical Abuse

May involve hitting, shaking, throwing, poisoning, burning, scalding, drowning, suffocating or otherwise causing physical harm. It may be done deliberately or recklessly, or be the result of deliberate failure to prevent injury occurring. Physical harm may also be caused when a parent or carer feigns the symptoms of, or deliberately causes ill health to a child. This situation is commonly described using terms such as factitious illness or Munchausen's syndrome by proxy.

Sexual Abuse

Forcing or enticing a child or young person to take part in sexual activities, whether or not the child is aware of what is happening. The activities may involve:

- physical contact including penetrative or non-penetrative acts.
- non-contact activities, such as involving children in looking at, or in the production of pornographic material or watching sexual activities.
- encouraging children to behave in sexually inappropriate ways, including involvement in prostitution.
- Child sexual exploitation (CSE): is a form of sexual abuse that involves the manipulation and/or coercion of young people under the age of 18 into sexual activity in exchange for things such as money, gifts, accommodation, affection or status

Emotional Abuse

The persistent emotional ill-treatment of a child so as to cause severe and persistent adverse effects on their emotional development. It may involve:

- conveying to children that they are worthless or unloved, inadequate or valued only insofar as they meet the needs of another person.
- age or developmentally inappropriate expectations being imposed on children
- causing children frequently to feel frightened or in danger
- the exploitation or corruption of children.

Some level of emotional abuse is involved in all types of ill-treatment of a child, though it may occur alone.

Additional forms of Abuse

Domestic Abuse

Domestic abuse is defined as any incident of threatening behaviour, violence or abuse (psychological, physical, sexual, financial or emotional) between individuals aged 16 years and over who are or have been intimate partners or family members regardless of gender or sexuality.

Child Sexual Exploitation

Involves exploitative situations, contexts and relationships where young people receive “something” (food, accommodation, drugs, alcohol, cigarettes, affection, gifts, money) as a result of performing sexual activities and/ or another performing sexual activities on them.

Can occur through use of technology without the child's immediate recognition eg persuasion to post sexual images on the internet/mobile with no immediate payment or gain.

Those exploiting the child/young person have power over them by age, intellect, physical strength and/or economic or other resources. Violence, coercion and intimidation are common.

It is unlikely that concerns about possible sexual exploitation are as a result of a one off incident.

Female Genital Mutilation

Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) is an unacceptable form of abuse and violence against girls and women; it is known as female circumcision and is illegal in the UK. FGM is practised in at least 28 African countries as well as countries in Middle East and Asia.

Research in the UK has identified three key communities, Somalis, Kenyans and Nigerians. These groups have both a higher prevalence of FGM and a significant UK Population. The practice tends to occur in areas of high populations of FGM practising communities. Professionals need to be alert to the possibility of a girl being at risk of FGM, or already having suffering FGM. The practice is usually carried out on girls between infancy and 15 years.

Forced Marriage

Forced marriage is primarily an issue of violence against women. Most cases involve young women and girls aged between 13 and 30 years, although, there is evidence to suggest that as many as 15% of victims are male. Forced Marriage is a criminal offence, the offences can include, abduction, physical violence, threatening behaviour. Sexual Intercourse without consent is rape.

Hidden Harm

The effects on the young person as a result of a parent or carers misuse of substances such as drugs or alcohol.

Radicalisation

Is the process by which a person comes to support terrorism and forms of extremism leading to terrorism. Keeping Children Safe in Education (March 2015) states: ‘The Counter-Terrorism and Security Act, which received Royal Assent on 12 February 2015, places a duty on specified authorities, including local authorities and childcare, education and other children’s services providers, in the exercise of their functions, to have ‘due regard to the need to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism’ (“the Prevent duty”).

The Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015 will also place a duty on local authorities to ensure Channel panels are in place. The panel must include the local authority and chief

officer of the local police. Panels will assess the extent to which identified individuals are vulnerable to being drawn into terrorism, following a referral from the police and where considered appropriate and necessary consent is obtained, arrange for support to be provided to those individuals. The Act will require partners of Channel panels to co-operate with the panel in the carrying out of its functions and with the police in undertaking the initial assessment as to whether a referral is appropriate. Schools and colleges which are required to have regard to Keeping Children Safe in Education are listed in the Act as partners of the panel. The relevant provisions of the Act will come into force on 12 April 2015 but many local authorities already have Channel panels set up in their area.

Young people and vulnerable groups are particularly targeted by groups who may promote violent extremist activity. College staff should be aware of signs of radicalisation and have the confidence to report their concerns to the Safeguarding Team.

The College will also promote the ethos of the 'Prevent' agenda by encouraging free and open debate but challenging extreme views. It will encourage through its classroom practice, theme weeks and induction activities, a belief in Equality of Opportunity and the celebration of Diversity.

The College will not host or allow its premises to be used by extreme groups and will seek to prevent the distribution of extreme literature.

The College has a legal responsibility to forbid the promotion of partisan political views in the teaching of any subject in the college and must take such steps as are reasonably practicable to secure that where political issues are brought to the attention of students they are offered a balanced presentation of opposing views. Promotion of any organisations linked to violent extremism is contrary to the values of the college and could constitute misconduct.

The College will provide appropriate support through its own staff or by referral to external agencies, for any student in danger of radicalisation.

Teenage Relationship Abuse

Abuse in young people's relationships can involve the same forms of controlling and coercive behaviour, physical, emotional, psychological, financial and sexual violence and abuse as seen in adult relationships.

Additional forms of abuse relevant to Adults at Risk

Financial Abuse

Including theft, fraud, exploitation, the misuse of possessions or benefits and pressure applied in relation to financial transactions.

Discriminatory Abuse

This includes discrimination on the basis of race, culture, language, religion, gender, age, sexuality or disability and includes hate crime incidents

Unlawful deprivation of liberty

Restrictions or restraint can take away a person's freedom and so deprive them of their liberty. This may happen if restraint is used frequently or for extended periods, or a number of different restrictions are in place. There is no clear definition of when the use of restrictions and restraint crosses the line to depriving a person of their liberty.

Institutional

Institutional abuse occurs when the systems, processes and/or management of these is failing to safeguard a number of adults leaving them at risk of, or causing them, harm.