

## Peak Multi Academy Trust Safeguarding Statement

### Principles

PEAK Multi Academy Trust recognises the contribution it can and must make to protecting and supporting children and young people in its schools. Their welfare is of paramount importance. PEAK Multi Academy Trust requires each individual school within the Trust to have safeguarding policies and practice which:

- meet statutory requirements
- reflect the requirements of the Local Authority
- comply with any additional expectations of good practice, determined at Trust level.

### School and Local Authority Policies and Contacts

Please check an individual academy's Safeguarding Policy for further details of school and Local Authority contact points, together with other locally determined arrangements. This can be obtained via the school website or school office, upon request.

### Trust Named staff and contacts

- Designated Trust Safeguarding Lead: Mr B Ames Trustee ([b.ames@peakmat.uk](mailto:b.ames@peakmat.uk))
- Deputy Designated Trust Safeguarding Lead: Ms J Gill ([j.gill@peakmat.uk](mailto:j.gill@peakmat.uk))
- Designated Safeguarding Leads at each of the Trust Schools. See details in the safeguarding policies at:
  - o <http://www.chellaston.derby.sch.uk>
  - o <http://www.cjs.derby.sch.uk>
  - o <http://www.chellastoni.derby.sch.uk>
  - o <http://www.homefields.derby.sch.uk>

The first port of call, for raising safeguarding concerns related to a school within the Trust, should ordinarily be the Designated Safeguarding Lead, or the Headteacher/Head of School. If this route is unavailable or inappropriate, contact PEAK Multi Academy Trust via [S.Dakin@peakmat.uk](mailto:S.Dakin@peakmat.uk)

### The National Context

Local authorities have overarching statutory responsibility for safeguarding and promoting the welfare of all children and young people in their area. Whilst local authorities play a lead role in this, safeguarding children and **protecting them from harm is everyone's responsibility.**

The DfE publishes 'Keeping Children Safe in Education – statutory guidance for schools and colleges'.

Keeping Children Safe in Education (DfE). This guidance contains information on what schools, including academies, should do and sets out the legal duties with which they must comply. This document is regularly updated to ensure that schools and colleges are clear about what they must do to protect children and young people from harm, and the action they must take if they believe there is risk of harm to individuals.

In law individual academies are deemed to be 'relevant partners' of their local authority and as such are under a duty to co-operate in that local authority's Local Safeguarding Children's Board arrangements. The Education (Independent School Standards) Regulations 2014 apply a duty on proprietors of independent schools, including academies, to make arrangements for ensuring that their functions are exercised with a view to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children. This legal requirement and the values and principles that underpin PEAK Multi Academy Trust mean that it is essential that our Trust ensures not only compliance at local level but also assumes a strategic responsibility to ensure that safeguarding practice is of high quality.

The Trust is committed to ensuring that our academies' policies and procedures comply with what is expected in law, but also reflect best practice guidance. We want to go beyond compliance to ensure that our schools have a culture in which safeguarding is at the heart of their work with children and young people. PEAK Multi Academy Trust ensure that all PEAK MAT schools fulfil all of their statutory responsibilities in respect of safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children.

Individual schools will:

- have a designated senior leader and a designated governor for safeguarding
- have in place safeguarding arrangements which are designed to take account of all possible safeguarding issues including Child Sexual Exploitation and Preventing Radicalisation Prevent Duty (DfE)
- adhere to safer recruitment practices
- 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 and comply with any requests from that Board have in place effective child protection and staff expectations/code of conduct policies
- develop a culture of listening to children/young people and take account of their wishes and feelings
- provide appropriate supervision and support for staff including undertaking safeguarding induction and training
- follow clear policies for dealing with allegations against people who work with children
- have clear whistleblowing procedures
- make age appropriate provision for teaching children and young people about how to keep themselves safe, including online, and enjoy healthy lifestyles, as part of a broad and balanced curriculum
- appoint a designated teacher to promote the educational achievement of children who are looked after (LAC), and (from January 2018) for those who are post adoption, and to ensure that staff have the skills, knowledge and understanding necessary to keep LAC safe
- put in place appropriate safeguarding responses to children who are missing from education.

Policy in respect of safeguarding is mainly determined at national and local authority level and it is the responsibility of each academy to implement such policy. PEAK MAT’s safeguarding support ensures adherence to national and local policy in the interests of vulnerable children and young people. Failure to implement appropriate arrangements in schools and academies to safeguard and promote the wellbeing of children will result in direct intervention by the Trust, in order that children and young people are fully and properly protected.

Trust reporting protocols

<b>Trust Board meetings</b>	Half termly – including a SG report from each school within the MAT.
<b>PEAK MAT Executive Heads meetings</b>	Half termly – reporting on Safeguarding matters and updates for the Trust.
<b>Local Governing Board Meetings</b>	Half termly – fixed Safeguarding agenda item for all schools.
<b>Headteachers Report</b>	Provides termly updates on all areas of school improvement, including Safeguarding
<b>IGB – Chellaston Academy</b> Members: CoG/Vice CoG/CEO/NLG/LA consultant/Trust SG lead	Meet weekly - review Chellaston Academy’s Post inspection action plan and associated evidence.
<b>Link Governor visits</b>	Half termly meeting with Safeguarding team and Designated Safeguarding Lead.
<b>Annual LA Training – Governors and Trustees</b>	Provided by SSIO and supports planning and development of Trust Board
<b>Annual audit based on the DDSCB Audit</b>	

## Appendix 1

### Derby City and Derbyshire Safeguarding Children Board- Role of Trustees and Governors:

- The Academy contributes to inter-agency working in line with [Working Together to Safeguard Children \(2018\)](#) by:
  - Providing a co-ordinated offer of early help when low level or emerging needs of children are identified.
  - Contributing to inter-agency support to children subject to child in need or child protection plans; and
  - Allowing access for Children's Social Care to conduct or consider conducting an assessment.
- They have awareness of local arrangements and a good understanding of the Academy role in the new Derby and Derbyshire Safeguarding Children Partnership arrangements.
- They understand the local Threshold document which sets out the criteria for action, child protection conference professional dissent policy, escalation policy and the local protocol for assessment.
- The importance of information sharing between professionals and local agencies is recognised as key in promoting the welfare and protecting the safety of children. Arrangements are in place that set out clearly the process and principles for sharing information within the Academy, with the Derby and Derbyshire Safeguarding Children Partnership and other agencies and practitioners as required.
- There is awareness and due regard to the obligations of the [Data Protection Act 2018](#) and [GDPR](#) to ensure that personal information is processed fairly and lawfully and kept safe and secure and where appropriate is shared to support the safeguarding of children and individuals at risk. Fears about sharing information must not be allowed to stand in the way of the need to promote the welfare and protect the safety of children.
- The Academy's safeguarding arrangements take into account procedures and practice of the local authority as part of the [inter-agency safeguarding procedures](#) set up by Derby and Derbyshire Safeguarding Children Partnership (DDSCP). This includes co-operation between partner agencies and providing information to the DDSCP to allow it to perform its functions.
- The Chair of the Governing body/Trustees will liaise with the Local Authority Designated Officer (LADO) (also known as Designated Officer) and partner agencies in event of any allegations of abuse made against the headteacher.
- There is an effective safeguarding policy which is consistent with [Derby and Derbyshire Safeguarding Children partnership procedures](#), including the local criteria for action (thresholds document) and local protocol for assessment, along with a school behaviour policy and staff behaviour policy (code of conduct). This will be provided to all staff on induction, will be updated annually as a minimum and available on the Academy website along with the contact details of the Designated Safeguarding Lead, their deputy/ies and their availability, including during school holidays.
- The safeguarding policy includes procedures which minimise the risk of peer on peer abuse, how allegations will be investigated and dealt with and have clear processes as to how victims, perpetrators and any other child affected by peer on peer abuse will be supported.
- All policies and procedures adopted by governing bodies/Trustees, particularly concerning referrals of suspected abuse and neglect, are followed by all staff.
- All staff including governors/trustees and volunteers adhere to their duties in [The Prevent Duty \(2015\)](#) to prevent radicalisation. Keeping children safe from these risks is a safeguarding matter and should be approached in the same way as safeguarding children from other risks.
- There is a whole Academy approach to domestic abuse, and this includes active participation in the police led Stopping Domestic Abuse Together (SDAT) initiative.
- A member of the Senior Leadership Team is appointed to the role of Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL); this will be explicit in the role holder's job description, have the appropriate authority and given time, funding, training, resources and support to fulfil their role effectively. The Designated Deputy Safeguarding Leads, explicit in the role holder's job descriptions, will also be appointed in the same way and can be delegated the activities of the Designated Safeguarding Lead; however, the lead responsibility for safeguarding remains with the DSL.
- All staff members undergo safeguarding and child protection training at induction.

- The Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) and their deputies undergo training at a minimum every two years and their knowledge and skills are updated at least annually to keep up to date with developments relevant to their role.
- The Headteacher and other staff will undergo child protection training regularly and will receive safeguarding and child protection updates at least annually to provide them with relevant skills and knowledge to safeguard children effectively.
- Staff training will be consistent with the Derby and Derbyshire Safeguarding Children Partnership guidance - Training Pathways for Education Providers. See DDSCP [Training Courses and Events](#) page.
- There is a whole Academy approach to online safety to address the 3 areas of risk; content, contact and conduct. This includes a policy on the use of mobile technology in the setting, appropriate filters and monitoring systems to ensure young people are safeguarded from potentially harmful and inappropriate material online, including terrorist and extremist material, as well as online safety training for staff. As technology in this area evolves and changes rapidly online safety will be regularly reviewed.
- Ensure that young people are taught about safeguarding, including mental health/well-being and online safety (this incorporates healthy online/offline relationships, sexting/'youth produced sexual imagery' and terrorist/extremist material), through teaching, learning opportunities and tutorials.
- People who pose a risk of harm are prevented from working with children by:
  - Adhering to statutory responsibilities to check staff working with children, taking proportionate decisions on whether to ask for checks beyond what is required and ensuring volunteers are appropriately supervised.
  - Having a written recruitment and selection policies and procedures in place.
  - The presence of at least one person on any appointment panel who has undertaken safer recruitment training.
- There are procedures in place to handle allegations of abuse against staff and volunteers and that such allegations are referred to the Local Authority Designated Officer (LADO)/Designed Officer at the local authority and that procedures are in place to make a referral to the Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) when the criteria has been met. There are also procedures in place to handle allegations of abuse by young people against other young people also known as 'peer on peer abuse' or 'child on child abuse'.
- There are systems in place for young people to report any concerns, express their views and feedback. Staff will not agree confidentiality and will always act in the best interests of the child.
- A Designated Teacher with the appropriate training, relevant qualifications and experience will be appointed to promote the education achievement of children who are Looked After or previously Looked After. All staff will have the skills, knowledge and understanding to keep Looked After children and previously Looked After children safe.
- There are appropriate safeguarding responses to young people who go missing from education, particularly on repeat occasions and this is consistent with [DfE Children Missing Education guidance](#), [Derby City Council Children Missing Education Policy](#) and [Derby and Derbyshire Runaway or Missing from Home or Care Protocol](#).
- Where reasonably possible ensure that the Academy hold more than one emergency contact number for each student.
- Ensure exclusions internal, fixed term and permanent meet requirements of DfE statutory guidance, including obligations under the [Equality Act](#) (2010).
- Any deficiencies or weaknesses in regard to safeguarding arrangements that are brought to their attention are addressed without delay.