



Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy

The Vanguard Learning Trust is committed to safeguarding children and young people and expects everyone who works for the Trust to share this commitment.

Safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children is everyone's responsibility. Everyone who comes into contact with children and their families has a role to play in identifying concerns, sharing information and taking prompt action.

Safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children is defined for the purposes of this policy as:

- protecting children from maltreatment;
- preventing impairment of children's mental and physical health or development;
- ensuring that children grow up in circumstances consistent with the provision of safe and effective care;
- taking action to enable all children to have the best outcomes.

It is important to remember that Safeguarding and Child Protection are not the same. Safeguarding is what we do for all children and young people to keep them safe whilst in our care. Child protection describes the policy and procedures specifically for those young people who are at risk of serious harm or have been seriously harmed.

Children include everyone under the age of 18.

Trustees, governors and staff within the Vanguard Learning Trust fully recognise their responsibility for safeguarding children. Trustees, governors and staff share a belief that our schools should provide a caring, positive, safe and stimulating environment which promotes the social, physical and moral development of the individual child.

This policy is based on the statutory guidance Keeping Children Safe in Education, September 2020 (KCSiE). All members of the Trust are expected to read Part 1 and Annex A of KCSiE.