

Safeguarding Policy

Young People and Vulnerable Adults

The C&M College Network
where people flourish, and achieve
extraordinary things

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Introduction

The Cheadle and Marple College Network Corporation and Senior Management Team recognise that it has statutory obligations under the Children's Act 2014 and Education Act 2011 to safeguard and promote the welfare of individuals. In relation to vulnerable adults the Government set out key principles (No Secrets 2000) which state that "the protection of vulnerable adults should always receive a high priority and that all agencies should be able to clearly demonstrate the ability to respond to abuse with prompt, timely, and appropriate action".

In addition The C&M College Network recognise the duties relating to the prevention of vulnerable people being drawn into terrorism as defined in Section 21 The Counter Terrorism and Security Act 2015.

Informed by our mission statement:

"The C&M College Network – a place where people flourish and achieve extraordinary things"

We aim to:

- Ensure employees are carefully selected, trained to understand types of abuse and are aware of their responsibilities in relation to safeguarding and protection.
- Take reasonable steps to ensure the health, safety and welfare of The C&M College Network community
- Understand and act where there is cause for concern and collaborate with external agencies

Compliance: Legal, Statutory and Internal Regulations

The Safeguarding Young People and Vulnerable Adults Policy is underpinned by the following legal / statutory regulations:

- Keeping Children Safe in Education 2019
- Children's Act 2014
- Common Assessment Framework 2016
- Counter Terrorism and Security Act 2015
- GDPR 2018
- Guidance: Advice for Schools & Colleges: How to Prevent and Respond to Reports of Sexual Violence and Harassment Between Children
- Working Together to Safeguard Children (2018 Update)
- Safeguarding Children & Young People from Knife Crime (Ofsted) 2019
- Teacher Standards 2016
- Every Child Matters 2017
- No Secrets (Adult Protection) 2015
- Modern Slavery Act 2015
- Data Protection Act 2018

Procedures and Protocols Supporting This Policy

- Equality Policy & Procedures
- Whistleblowing Policy & Procedures
- Safeguarding Young People and Vulnerable Adults Procedures (including guidance in relation to Forced Marriages)
- Online Safety Policy & Protocol and Acceptable Use Agreements
- Employee Handbook
- Health and Safety Policy & Procedures

Scope

The Safeguarding Young People and Vulnerable Adults Policy applies to all "children" i.e. a young person up to the age of 18 including customers, contractors, employees, students and visitors and vulnerable adults and repeals all previous policies in relation to Child and Vulnerable Adult Protection.

Note: Vulnerable adults are defined as people who are or may be in need of community care services because of mental disability, other disability, age or illness and who are, or who may be, unable to take care of themselves or unable to protect themselves against significant harm or exploitation.

Specific accountabilities of parties are:

- The Principal holds ultimate accountability to ensure a safe environment
- Designated Safeguarding Leads, one of whom must be a senior manager, have responsibility for monitoring procedures, incident recording, liaison with external agencies and ensuring colleagues are advised and supported in relation to safeguarding
- All employees have a responsibility to take seriously, understand and act without personal judgment where there is cause for concern and liaise with the Designated Safeguarding Leads
- The Corporation is accountable for ensuring effective policies and procedures are in place, are monitored and comply with the statutory guidance.

The Role of The C&M College Network

Within The C&M College Network's duty of care it has responsibility to act if there is a cause for concern and to notify the appropriate agencies to enable investigation and action to be taken, if appropriate. However, it is not The C&M College Network's responsibility to investigate allegations or suspicions of abuse.

The C&M College Network has a responsibility to provide information to Social Services about an individual or family, if required to do so for a protection assessment under the Common Assessment Framework. The Working Together to Safeguard Children 2018 update places new duties on key agencies in a local area to work together and with other local partners to safeguard and promote welfare of all children and young people in their area.

In addition, The C&M College Network may provide help or a specific service to an individual as part of a protection plan agreed at a Child in Need Meeting and could also contribute to reviewing and individual's progress in this regard.

The C&M College Network response to a role in safeguarding the welfare of individuals in relation to abuse is:

- To establish safeguarding / child protection protocols and effective communication with schools, when pupils on their rolls are attending either The Cheadle College or Marple Sixth Form College
- To ensure the person who discloses abuse is offered all possible support
- To appoint Designated Safeguarding Leads with responsibility for safeguarding and child protection and to collaborate with external agencies and the local area Common Assessment Team and the Local Safeguarding Children Board (LSCB)
- To refer the individual to The Common Processes Team or other appropriate agency e.g. the Police or NSPCC, when the individual requests it or a situation necessitates such action
- To provide appropriate continual professional development to ensure up to date employee awareness of safeguarding and protection from abuse and the related procedures to follow
- To seek opportunities to promote student safety and welfare throughout the curriculum
- To ensure lower level safeguarding concerns are identified and monitored

The C&M College Network recognises its duties in relation to CONTEST, the Government's Counter Terrorism Strategy and in particular **Prevent** and will liaise with external multi agencies in order to safeguard vulnerable people who may be at risk of being radicalised or drawn into extremism or terrorist behaviour.

Policy Statement

The Cheadle and Marple College Network recognises that it has a statutory obligation to safeguard and promote welfare to the C&M College Network community and enabling all young people and vulnerable adults the opportunity to achieve their full potential by maximising their opportunities within a safe environment free from harm and abuse.

It is the responsibility of all employees to take reasonable steps to promote well – being, recognise potential harm, protect individuals from harm and share information whilst also respecting individual choice to disclose (unless withholding information would increase risk to the individual).

The Corporation will follow the statutory guidance, Keeping Children Safe in Education 2019, No Secrets (Adult Protection) 2015, The Counter Terrorism and Security Act 2015, Modern Slavery Act 2015 and GDPR 2018 to ensure they meet their responsibilities to ensure effective policies and procedures are in place and regularly monitored. The Safeguarding (Young People and Vulnerable Adults) Procedure will be reviewed annually.

The C&M College Network will ensure there are Designated Safeguarding Leads of appropriate seniority, who are expert in the use of safeguarding assessments and procedures, maintain accurate incident records, support and offer advice and guidance to colleagues, liaise effectively with external agencies and, where appropriate, apply the Common Assessment Framework.

Safe Recruitment will take place including Disclosure and Barring Service check and professional boundaries applied to establish expectations and set parameters to maintain a safe environment. At induction new employees will receive information relating to safeguarding and Employee Code of Conduct

In order to ensure appropriate up to date understanding of safeguarding including extremism and awareness of potential indicators, promote protection awareness and best practice mandatory training for governors, employees and sub-contractors will be provided to support policies, procedures and statutory obligations.

It is the intention that good safeguarding practice is integrated into all activities and services provided by The C&M College Network including services provided by sub-contractors. Our Anti-Slavery and Trafficking (Modern Slavery) Statement and Privacy Statements are published on our website.

Safety and welfare will be included in all student inductions and opportunities embraced to promote awareness will be embedded across the curriculum.

The C&M College Network intends to ensure that individuals are treated with respect and will not be harmed by employees, sub-contractors or visitors. Where it is suspected that a young person or vulnerable adult has been or is likely to be harmed, The C&M College Network will act efficiently and effectively to contribute to actions required to safeguard the individual person's welfare.

Signed:



Title:

Acting Principal

Date:

28/06/2019