

Statement

The Trafford College Group regards the protection of children and adults at risk as a priority and is committed to safeguarding these groups.

Our safeguarding Policy outlines the following principles:

- The protection of children, young people and adults at risk is everyone's responsibility.
- The Trafford College Group will follow statutory and specialist guidelines in working with children, young people and adults at risk
- The Trafford College Group will review the Safeguarding Policy annually
- The Trafford College Group will seek to support those affected by abuse
- The Trafford College Group will seek to prevent vulnerable people from radicalisation or undue influence that may cause harm to themselves or others
- The Trafford College Group will ensure all learners, staff and stakeholders know who they can approach in the organisation if they are worried that someone is at risk of harm

The Trafford College Group recognises its duty to safeguard students encompasses specific safeguarding issues including Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE), Child Criminal Exploitation (CCE), Sexual Harassment and Sexual Violence, Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) forced Marriage, radicalisation, mental health, peer on peer abuse, upskirting, the importance of online safety including the sharing of nude and semi-nude images and videos.

Where there is a safeguarding concern, students wishes and feelings will be taken into account (where appropriate) when determining what action to take and what services to provide.

All concerns including **low level** concerns (that do not meet the threshold for harm) will be treated seriously and investigated appropriately.

The Assistant Principal of Student Experience and Support is the Designated Safeguarding Strategic Lead. The Learner Services Managers are the Designated Safeguarding Operational Leads. Alongside the Designated Safeguarding Operational Leads are the Designated Safeguarding Officers who provide advice and support to other staff on welfare and safeguarding matters. During core working hours the safeguarding team will be available. Outside of these hours any safeguarding concerns can be reported via the respective Local Authority website or, in the event of a threat of immediate harm, should be reported to the police by dialling 999.

Staff members who have concerns about a student, should raise these with the safeguarding team who will decide whether to make an alert to the Local Authority Safeguarding Team. However, any staff member can refer their concerns about a child to children's social care directly. Where an allegation or suspicion of abuse has been reported to the relevant Local Authority Safeguarding Team, the Trafford College Group will work in partnership with them to determine the next steps.

The Police will be contacted where a safeguarding concern could lead to potential wilful neglect or ill treatment of someone who lacks capacity. This includes all concerns around care and support needs.

Any student that raises or is involved in a safeguarding concern who has capacity, will be offered appropriate support to decide whom they wish to be informed (i.e. parents / carers).

In the event of a safeguarding concern, parents / carers of service-users who lack capacity will be contacted at the earliest, most appropriate time - unless the parent / carer is directly implicated in the concern. Communication with parents / carers will be regular, open and transparent.