

CHILD PROTECTION STATEMENT

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School Partnership Trust Academies (SPTA) is fully committed to promoting children's rights, notably their right to be protected from harm, abuse and exploitation and to be involved in any decisions that directly affect them.

SPTA has a duty of care to implement effective policies and procedures for safeguarding the welfare of children and young people. In order to achieve this we will ensure our employees and volunteers are carefully selected, screened, trained and supervised. Furthermore we will actively endeavour to keep up to date with national developments relating to the care and protection of children and young people.

SPTA will:

- Ensure that all employees understand their legal and moral obligations to protect children and young people from harm, abuse and exploitation
- Develop best practice in relation to the recruitment of all employees and volunteers through safer recruitment training
- Provide opportunities for all newly appointed employees and volunteers through the provision of induction training, which gives an overview of the organisation's purpose, values, structure and services
- Ensure that all employees and volunteers understand their responsibility to work to the standards and procedures detailed in the organisation's Code of Conduct and the relevant Local Safeguarding Children Board (LSCB) procedures
- Ensure that all employees and volunteers understand their obligations to report care or protection concerns about a child/young person, or an employee's / volunteer's conduct towards a child/young person, to the organisation's designated person for child protection
- Ensure that all procedures relating to the conduct of employees and volunteers are implemented in a consistent and equitable manner
- Ensure that the designated child protection officer understands their responsibility to refer any child protection concerns to the statutory child protection agencies (i.e. police and/or Local Authority Designated Officer (LADO) and/or social worker)
- Ensure that the organisation meets all its responsibilities in adhering to the requirements of the Children Act 2004 and Childcare Act 2006
- Provide opportunities for all employees and volunteers to develop their skills and knowledge particularly in relation to the care and protection of children and young people
- Ensure that children and young people are enabled to express their ideas and views on a wide range of issues and will have access to the organisation's complaints procedures
- Endeavour to keep up to date with national developments relating to the care and protection of children and young people

Failure to comply with the principles outlined within this statement and the associated policies and procedures will be addressed without delay in accordance with the SPTA Disciplinary Policy.