



## **Child Protection and Safeguarding Written Statement**

### **1. Policy Statement**

1.1. The Odyssey Collaborative Trust is fully committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of all the pupils and staff within the Trust and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment.

1.2. Each year a safeguarding policy template will be produced centrally. To enable effective local partnership working, this will be based on the Derby City Policy. This template will then be adapted by each school. These policies can be seen on each school's website.

1.3 The Odyssey Collaborative Trust expects that everyone working within the Trust will create an environment in which all children and adults have an equal right to protection regardless of gender, religion, ethnicity, sexual identity or culture.

1.4. The Odyssey Collaborative Trust requires all those working for the trust and its schools to maintain an open mind and an attitude of 'it could happen here' where safeguarding is concerned. When concerned about the welfare of a child, staff members should always act in the interests of the child.

1.5. The Odyssey Collaborative Trust expects that all adults within the school community are aware that they have an equal responsibility to act on any suspicion or disclosure that may suggest a child is at risk of harm at home, in the community or in the school. Anybody can make a referral.

1.6. The Odyssey Collaborative Trust expects that each school will follow the guidance provided by Derby and Derbyshire Safeguarding Children Partnership and Derby Children's Services departments. From time to time, there may be the need to work with other authorities..

### **2. Definitions**

2.1. Safeguarding refers to the process of protecting children from maltreatment, preventing the impairment of health or development, ensuring that children grow up in circumstances consistent with the provision of safe and effective care and taking action to enable all children to have the best outcomes.

2.2. Child protection refers to the processes undertaken to protect children who have been identified as suffering, or being at risk of suffering significant harm.

2.3. Staff refer to all those working for or on behalf of the school, full time or part time, temporary or permanent, in either a paid or voluntary capacity.

2.4. Child includes everyone under the age of 18.

### **3. Responsibilities across the trust**

3.1 The Odyssey Collaborative Trust will, in respect of each school, act in accordance with, and be bound by, all relevant statutory and regulatory provisions for safeguarding.

3.2 All schools will:

- Have their own policy on safeguarding and child protection which will, alongside the aforementioned regulations, comply with this statement and the Trust's Scheme of Delegation.
- Have a named School Designated Safeguarding Lead, who is a member of the SLT. Usually this will be the Headteacher. The school will also appoint at least one School Deputy Designated Lead.
- Have a named governor for safeguarding. He or she will liaise with the headteacher to monitor safeguarding in the school. They will also ensure that governors are suitably trained;
- Ensure the recruitment of staff and volunteers is in line with safer recruitment guidance and legislation and ensure that all staff will have the necessary training to ensure safeguarding procedures are followed;
- Have procedures in place for dealing with allegations of abuse against members of staff or volunteers.

The above will be monitored by the local governing board, board of trustees and the CEO.

3.3 The Board of Trustees will:

- Have overall responsibility for safeguarding and child protection across the trust;
- Have a named Trustee for safeguarding. This is James Wright.
- Have a named staff member as Trust Designated Safeguarding Lead, this is the CEO, Ian Dewes. This person will monitor safeguarding across the trust and report to the trustees on the practise seen;
- Ensure that there is training at an appropriate level for staff and volunteers working for the staff central team;
- Ensure that there is a safeguarding and child protection written statement for the Trust and this aligns with the Trust's Scheme of Delegation;
- Have procedures in place for dealing with allegations of abuse against members of staff or volunteers;

The above is the responsibility of the board of trustees. Implementation of safeguarding and child protection procedures is led by the CEO and will be monitored by the board of trustees.