

Aspire Safeguarding Policy

This policy must be read in conjunction with Buckinghamshire Education Authority Child Protection Policy – (Pupil Referral Units), Aspires Confidentiality Policy & Aspires Safeguarding Protocol

1 Introduction

1.1 The health, safety and well-being of all our students are of paramount importance to all the adults who work in Aspire. Our students have the right to protection, regardless of age, gender, race, culture or disability. They have a right to be safe in Aspire.

1.2 At Aspire we respect our students. The atmosphere within Aspire is one that encourages all students to do their best. We provide opportunities that enable our students to take and make decisions for themselves.

1.3 Our teaching of personal, social and health education and citizenship, as reflected in the National Curriculum, helps to develop appropriate attitudes in our students and makes them aware of the impact of their decisions on others. We also teach them how to recognise different risks in different situations, and how to behave in response to them.

2 Aims and objectives

2.1 This policy ensures that all staff in Aspire are clear about the actions necessary with regard to a child protection issue. Its aims are:

- to raise the awareness of all staff and identify responsibility in reporting possible cases of abuse;
- to ensure effective communication between all staff when dealing with child protection issues;
- to lay down the correct procedures for those who encounter an issue of child protection.

3 Procedures

3.1 There is a named person in our school who is the Designated person for Safeguarding. This is normally the headteacher but s/he may delegate this responsibility in some circumstances. In Aspire the Designated Person is the Assistant Headteacher with that delegated responsibility, and/or the Leaner Support on site.

Site Name	Designated Person	Contact number
The Wycombe Grange	Tammy Nichols	07557 801531
The Wycombe Grange	Mandy Miller	01494 445015
CSEC	Kate Baptiste	07557 800711
CSEC	Sally Barnes	07557 801239
Blueprint	James Sisk	07841 976961
CVG	Helen Shakespeare	07557 801593

3.2 If any teacher suspects that a child in his/her class may be a victim of abuse, they immediately inform the named person about their concerns. Abuse can be of a sexual, emotional or physical nature. It can also be the result of neglect.

3.3 Any action that the named person takes when dealing with an issue of child protection must be in line with the procedures outlined in the LA Child Protection guidelines

3.4 Aspire's named co-ordinator works closely with the Social Services department and the Area Child Protection Committee (ACPC) when investigating any allegations of abuse. All parties involved handle such investigations in a sensitive manner, but the interest of the child is of paramount importance.

3.5 If a child alleges abuse, Aspire usually makes a referral without communicating with parents first. In some circumstances we inform parents first.

3.6 If a child protection referral is made, a case conference is held within eight working days of the decision. The case conference offers the opportunity to share information and formulate a plan of action. Staff are expected to attend and participate in all case conferences and meetings held under the LA guidelines.

3.7 We regard all information relating to individual child protection issues as confidential, and we treat this accordingly. We only pass information on to appropriate persons. We inform the child at all stages of who is involved, and what information we have given them.

3.8 We require all adults employed by Aspire to have their application vetted through police records in order to ensure that there is no evidence of offences involving students or abuse.

3.9 Recruitment is undertaken using the Buckinghamshire County Council 'Safer Recruitment' protocols.

3.10 There may be times when adults at Aspire, in the course of their duty, use physical intervention to restrain students. The Headteacher requires the adult involved in any such incident to report this to him/her immediately, and to record it in the interventions book.

3.11 All adults at Aspire receive regular training to raise their awareness of abuse and their knowledge of agreed local child protection procedures.

4 Monitoring and review

4.1 The Local Management Committee reviews any incidents detailed in the interventions book.

Signed:

Dated: