



**Policy/Procedure:**

## **Statement of Intent for Safeguarding**

**First approved by Standards Committee:**

**November 2018**

**Review Frequency: Annual**

**Date of last review: November 2019**

**Date of next review: November 2020**

## Safeguarding: Trust Statement of Intent

Osborne Co-operative Academy Trust is a multi-academy trust (MAT) incorporated around the principles and values of the International Co-operative Movement. These are Equality, Equity, Democracy, Self-help, Self-Responsibility and Solidarity, along with the ethical values of openness, honesty, social responsibility and caring for others. These values and principles underpin all our actions.

Osborne Co-operative Academy Trust recognises the moral and statutory responsibility to safeguard and promote the welfare of all pupils and staff and endeavours to provide a safe and welcoming environment where children are respected and valued. Our Trust is alert to the signs of abuse and neglect and will follow the Southend, Essex and Thurrock (SET) safeguarding procedures to ensure that children receive effective support, protection and justice. The Trust Human Resources team carries out an annual audit of the Single Central Record (SCR) and our Trust also carries out a full review of safeguarding in each school. The Safeguarding focus is continually maintained through the Trust three-year forward plan and the risk register.

We maintain an attitude of 'It could happen here.' All learning from the annual audit of the SCR will be reported to the Local Governing Body (LGB) and the Trust Board and acted upon in a timely fashion, including the provision of additional training where required. The Trust Board's designated safeguarding leads will audit schools' safeguarding systems at least annually and will report back to the LGBs and Trust Board.

The Trust will establish and maintain an environment and culture where:

- Children are safe and able to talk about their concerns in the knowledge that they will be supported.
- Parents/Carers are secure in the knowledge that their children are kept safe and their concerns are listened to.
- All Osborne Trust staff and volunteers feel safe: they are well trained in safeguarding and child protection and know their concerns will be listened to.
- The LGB in every school is committed to the implementation of the Safeguarding and Child Protection policy along with all relevant supporting policies.
- Designated Safeguarding Lead Persons (DSL) from each school across our Trust meet to discuss practice, to share learning and to train together. This will include sharing post incidents reviews and action points to enable improved practice.

The Osborne Co-operative Academy Trust has the following expectations of each of our Trust Schools:

- All policies in respect of safeguarding children are in line with the Department for Education's Keeping Children Safe in Education and the Prevent Duty. These policies are reviewed annually or updated if national guidance requires it during the academic year.
- A Designated Lead Person for Safeguarding is identified.
- A Deputy Designated Lead Person for Safeguarding is identified.
- Each LGB will identify a governor for Safeguarding.
- An annual audit is completed.
- Annual safeguarding training for all staff.
- The SCR is updated and accurate.
- The CPOMS safeguarding management and reporting system is used to document any safeguarding and child protection issues. Robust system to be in place for escalation of concerns with external agencies following the "SET" procedures established by Southend, Essex & Thurrock Councils.