



**Osborne**  
Co-operative Academy Trust

Self-help  
Self-responsibility  
Equity  
Equality  
Democracy  
Solidarity

## **Statement of Intent for Safeguarding**

**First approved by Trust Board: November 2018**

**Review Frequency: Annually**

**Date of last review: November 2020**

**Date of next review: November 2021**

## Version Control

Author	Date Created	Version	Notes
Working Party	September 2018	1.0	
J. Bray	November 2019	1.1	
L. Coates	October 2020	1.2	Approved by Chair's Action, October 2020

## Osborne Co-operative Academy Trust

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 both centrally and in each of the schools.

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, including the staff behaviour policy (sometimes called a code of conduct), children who go missing from education, acceptable use of technologies, staff (including supply staff)/pupil relationships and communications including the use of social media.
- 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 designated safeguarding lead will take lead responsibility for safeguarding and child protection in their school, this responsibility should be explicit in the role-holder's job description.

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.
- To understand the new safeguarding partners and child death review partner arrangements which are now in place. Locally, the three safeguarding partners (the local authority; a clinical commissioning group for an area within the local authority; and the chief officer of police for an area (any part of which falls) within the local authority area) will make arrangements to work together with appropriate relevant agencies to safeguard and promote the welfare of local children, including identifying and responding to their needs.
- To understand their role in the three safeguarding partner arrangements and ensure all members of their LGB and especially their designated safeguarding leads, make themselves aware of and follow their local arrangements.
- To contribute to multi-agency working in line with statutory guidance 'Working Together to Safeguard Children.'
- A Designated Lead Person for Safeguarding, who is part of the senior leadership team, 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.
- Safeguarding software is used for managing 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.
- All schools have planned implementation of the mandatory Relationship Education, Relationship and Sex Education and Health Education from September 2020.
- Clear systems and processes are in place for identifying possible mental health problems, including routes to escalate and clear referral and accountability systems. All schools will support and protect their children e.g. mental health, domestic abuse, child criminal and sexual exploitation and county lines.
- The LGB will monitor the impact of educational support given to children in need of help and protection.