

Student Hubs Child Protection Policy

Our child protection policy

This policy applies to all staff, including senior managers and the board of trustees, paid staff, volunteers and sessional workers, agency staff, interns, students or anyone working on behalf of Student Hubs.

The purpose of this policy:

- To protect children and young people who participate in Student Hubs activities. This includes the children of adults who participate in our activities.
- To provide staff and volunteers with the overarching principles that guide our approach to child protection.

Student Hubs believes that a child or young person should never experience abuse of any kind. We have a responsibility to promote the welfare of all children and young people and to keep them safe. We are committed to practice in a way that protects them.

Legal framework

This policy has been drawn up on the basis of law and guidance that seeks to protect children, namely:

- Children Act 1989
- United Convention of the Rights of the Child 1991
- Data Protection Act 1998
- Human Rights Act 1998
- Sexual Offences Act 2003
- Children Act 2004
- Safeguarding Vulnerable Groups Act 2006
- Protection of Freedoms Act 2012
- Children and Families Act 2014
- Special educational needs and disability (SEND) code of practice: 0 to 25 years – Statutory guidance for organisations which work with and support children and young people who have special educational needs or disabilities; HM Government 2014
- Information sharing: Advice for practitioners providing safeguarding services to children, young people, parents and carers; HM Government 2015
- Working together to safeguarding children: a guide to inter-agency working to safeguard and promote the welfare of children; HM Government 2015
- General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR) 2018

Student Hubs is a registered charity in England and Wales, number 1122328.

Strategic Partners:

This policy should be read alongside our policies and procedures on:

- [Definition of abuse](#)
- [Dealing with disclosures and concerns about a child or young person](#)
- [Dealing with disclosures and concerns in a virtual setting](#)
- [Young Persons Code of Conduct](#)
- [Dealing with allegations against another child or young person](#)
- [Recruitment, induction and training, including of ex-offenders](#)
- [Role of the designated safeguarding officer](#)
- [Recording and information sharing](#)
- [Code of conduct for staff and volunteers](#)
- Safer recruitment
- [Dealing with allegations against a Student Hubs employee or volunteer](#)
- [Whistleblowing](#)
- [Health & safety](#)

We recognise that:

- The welfare of the child is paramount, as enshrined in the Children Act 1989
- All children, regardless of age, disability, gender, racial heritage, religious belief, sexual orientation or identity, have a right to equal protection from all types of harm or abuse
- Some children are additionally vulnerable because of the impact of previous experiences, their level of dependency, communication needs or other issues
- Working in partnership with children, young people, their parents, carers and other agencies is essential in promoting young people's welfare

We will seek to keep children and young people safe by:

- Valuing them, listening to and respecting them
- Appointing a Designated Safeguarding Officer (DSO) for children and young people, a deputy and a lead board member for safeguarding
- Adopting children protection and safeguarding practices through procedures and a code of conduct for staff & volunteers
- Developing and implementing an effective e-safety policy and related procedures
- Providing effective management for staff and volunteers through supervision, support, training and quality assurance measures
- Recruiting staff and volunteers safely, ensuring all necessary checks are made
 - This includes appropriate application processes, selection workshops and DBS checks where appropriate.
- Recording and storing information professionally and securely
- Sharing information about safeguarding and good practice with children, their families, staff and volunteers via leaflets, posters, one-to-one discussions
- Using our safeguarding procedures to share concerns and relevant information with agencies who need to know, and involving children, young people, parents, families and carers appropriately
- Using our procedures to manage any allegations against staff and volunteers appropriately

- Creating and maintaining an anti-bullying environment and ensuring that we have a policy and procedure to help us deal effectively with any bullying that does arise
- Ensuring that we have effective complaints and whistleblowing measures in place
- Ensuring that we provide a safe physical environment for our children, young people, staff and volunteers, by applying health & safety measures in accordance with the law and regulatory guidance.

Contact details

Designated Safeguarding Officer (DSO) - Trustee

Michael Berry

mike.berry@studenthubs.org

Designated Safeguarding Officer (DSO) - Staff

Sophie Ford

07377996754

sophie.ford@southamptonhub.org

CEOP

www.ceop.police.uk

NSPCC Helpline

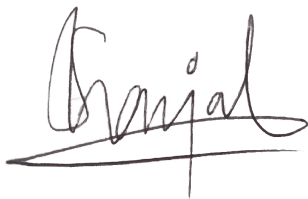
0800 800 5000

We are committed to reviewing our policy and good practice annually.

This policy was last reviewed on 07 April 2021.

This policy should next be reviewed by 01 April 2022.

Signed:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Simran Dhanjal", with a long horizontal stroke underneath.

Simran Dhanjal, CEO

Date: 28/04/21