

Introduction

The Trust and its schools have a range of duties in relation to safeguarding pupils and take these responsibilities very seriously through an embedded *culture of safeguarding*. The statutory guidance *Keeping Children Safe in Education 2023* provides an overview of duties with regard to the reporting of *low-level safeguarding concerns*. This Policy sets out the Trust's approach to the reporting of low-level concerns.

Purpose of the policy

The Trust believes every child attending a Trust school should be able to learn in an enjoyable and safe environment and be protected from all forms of abuse. This is the responsibility of [redacted] involved with the Trust and its schools.

The

Allegations

An *allegation* means that it is alleged that a person who works with children has:

- behaved in a way that has harmed or may have harmed a child
- possibly committed a criminal offence against a child
- behaved towards a child in a way that indicates they may pose a risk of harm to that child
- behaved in a way in their personal life that raises safeguarding concerns.
- behaved or may have behaved in a way that indicates they may not be suitable to work with children.

For note:

These concerns do not have to directly relate to a child, but could for example, include:

- an arrest for possession of a weapon
- having, as a parent or carer, become subject to public protection orders, 11.04

What to do if there is a low-level concern

All low-level concerns should be referred to the Trust/school CEO/headteacher.

It is important to

- share concern with the headteacher asap and within 24 hours of becoming aware of it.
- in the absence of the headteacher contact the School Improvement Partner
- if behaviour

- all external conversations
- their determination
- the rationale for their decision
- any action taken

Step 3 - Decision making and next steps

If the information shared meets the Trust's expectations and is compliant with the Trust's *Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy and Procedure*:

- Headteacher to inform the

Appendix 1.

Recording Template

Name of Individual concerned:	Date concern reported:
Name of Individual completing form:	
Statement of concern: (who, when, what, where)	
Statement from individual concerned:	
Record of discussion held with individual concerned and headteacher:	
Have checks of previous concerns be carried out: Yes/No (delete as approp.) If yes, what was decided in consultation with SIP/LADO??	
Agreed action:	
Signed: _____ (Individual concerned) Date: _____ Signed: _____ (Headteacher) Date: _____	

Appendix 2.

Case Studies

Why is this important? Examples From Cases – Two Serious Case Reviews