

Safeguarding Statement of Intent

Insignis Academy Trust Safeguarding Statement of Intent

Insignis Academy Trust is committed to ensuring that all students in our schools are cared for in a secure and safe environment. To fulfill this commitment, a number of safeguarding arrangements are in place.

Policies and procedures

We will ensure all policies and procedures in respect of safeguarding children are up to date and in line with recommendations from then DfE and the Local Authority. Each school will have in place a Child Protection Policy that is reviewed and revised by the Local Governing Body annually. The Insignis Board receives and annual report from the Executive Headteacher that summaries actions taken in the light of the annual review. All schools will also have a procedure for dealing with allegations against adults.

Board of Trustees Responsibilities

As delegated by the Board of Trustees, the Insignis CEO is the lead for Safeguarding Children and Adults at Risk across the Trust and is responsible for ensuring that policies and procedures are consistently applied in all Insignis schools.

Insignis Academy Trust is associated with the Local Safeguarding Children Board of Buckinghamshire County Council (BCSB). Any issues related to safeguarding children in Insignis schools will be discussed at this board as required. The Annual Safeguarding Report for each school will be presented to the BCSB when requested. Each Local Governing Body has a governor designated to have oversight of the Safeguarding Policy.

Recruitment

All staff recruitment panels include at least one member of staff who is qualified in Safer Recruitment practices. Each interview process will include an exploration of safeguarding issues.

Insignis Academy Trust meets statutory requirements in relation to Disclosure & Barring Service – all staff and volunteers who work with Insignis who meet the 'regulated activity test' (Freedom of Information Act 2012) are required to undergo an enhanced DBS check prior to employment or engagement. Further to this schools are encouraged to conduct DBS checks on members of staff every three years.

Designated Safeguarding Leads

The Board of Insignis Academy Trust has ultimate responsibility for Safeguarding issues. Operationally, this responsibility is delegated to the CEO, who leads on policy issues in relation to the safeguarding of children across the Trust.

Within each school there are Safeguarding Leads who lead on Child Protection issues within their establishment. They are clear about their role, have sufficient time and receive relevant support, and training, to undertake their roles, which include close contact with outside agencies including social services, the Buckingham Safeguarding Children's Board, the police and relevant health care organisations.

Training

All eligible staff and volunteers in Insignis schools are required to undertake relevant safeguarding training and this is regularly reviewed by each Designated Safeguarding Lead.

Site Security

A survey of site security will be conducted annually in each Insignis school. A report outlining the findings of each survey will be presented to the Insignis Board.

Audit and Monitoring

Insignis has robust audit checklists to ensure that safeguarding systems and processes are working. The audit includes: the monitoring of the Single Central Record, the monitoring of Child Protection policies and procedures including, 'Allegations against Professionals' and the monitoring of training for all employees and volunteers, guidance and support.