

Child Protection and Safeguarding Procedures

UTC Heathrow recognises its legal duties and takes seriously its responsibilities to protect and safeguard the interests of all students. The procedures of the ALET Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy aim to provide a framework, which ensures that all practice in the area of child protection is consistent with stated values and procedures that underpin all work with children and young people. Safeguarding incidents can happen anywhere and staff should alert relevant staff to the possible concerns that they have.

For guidance refer to the latest editions of the ALET Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy 2024-25 and Keeping Children Safe in Education 2024.

Key Contacts

Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL)	Ian Wilkins Ian.Wilkins@heathrow-utc.org
Deputy Designated Safeguarding Leads (DDSL)	Sarah Carey Sarah.Carey@heathrow-utc.org
Designated Safeguarding Officers (DSO)	Jas Kallah Jasmit.kallah@heathrow-utc.org Michelle Reeves Michelle.Reeves@heathrow-utc.org Gemma Gardiner Gemma.Gardiner@heathrow-utc.org
Chair of Governors	Peter Jones
Safeguarding Governor	Peter Jones
Designated Teacher for Looked After Children	Ian Wilkins Ian.Wilkins@heathrow-utc.org
Children Protection Advisor for Hillingdon	Nicole Diamond ndiamond@hillingsdon.gov.uk
Local Area Designated Officer (LADO)	Hannah Ives 01895 250975 hives@hillingsdon.gov.uk
Local Authority PREVENT Lead	Fiona Gibbs fgibbs@hillingsdon.gov.uk
NSPCC whistleblowing helpline	0800 028 0285 Help@nspcc.org.uk

Hillingdon Contextual Safeguarding

Contextual Safeguarding is an emerging approach to understanding, and responding to, children's experiences of significant harm beyond their families. It recognises that the different relationships that children form in their neighbourhoods, schools and online can feature violence and abuse. Parents and carers have limited influence over these contexts, and children's experiences of extra-familial abuse can undermine parent-child relationships.

In Hillingdon a multiagency response to the risks that children and young people face outside of their families and homes, this is known as extra-familial harm. This includes child sexual exploitation, missing children, gangs, county lines, radicalisation, modern slavery and all forms of criminal exploitation. These risks can be understood using the model of **Contextual Safeguarding**.

This model supports us to understand, and respond, to the risks that young people face through relationships formed in their communities, schools and online. It relies on the effective engagement of young people, families, communities and professionals. As with many forms of abuse, exploitation brings with it an imbalance of power within the relationship. This power imbalance significantly impairs children's ability to ask for help or to form safe relationships with professionals or family/friends.

As a Safeguarding Partnership we recognise that relationships with young people provide hope and an opportunity for change. This basic tenet is fundamental to practice with families. We are building upon our existing link, neighbourhoods and the wider community to reduce the contexts in which harm can take place.

Contextual Safeguarding is:

- Collaborative: Is achieved through collaboration between professionals, children and young people, families and communities to inform decisions about safety
- Ecological: Considers the links between the spaces where young people experience harm and how these are shaped by inequalities
- Rights-based: Rooted in children's and human rights
- Strengths-based: Builds on the strengths of individuals and communities to achieve change
- Evidence-informed: Grounded in the reality of how life happens. Proposes solutions that are informed by the lived experiences of young people, families, communities and practitioners

Safeguarding Guidance for External Visitors to the UTC

Adults visiting or working on the school site play an important part in the life of the school. You can play a part in keeping students safe whilst working at, or visiting, the school by observing the following guidelines:

- Always keep verbal contact appropriate and of a business nature. Never discuss personal details with a student. Physical contact of any kind is unacceptable.
- Do not give any personal information to students, such as your mobile number or address. Do not provide students with your personal email address, and only provide your professional work email if it is necessary as part of the reason for your visit.
- Do not give students details of your personal social network accounts or engage in any communication with students using social networking sites.

- If you have any concerns that a student may be at risk of harm, report it immediately to the Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) for child protection who can be contacted via school reception. Do not discuss your concerns with the student, and do not carry out an investigation.
- If a student makes a disclosure to you, do not promise confidentiality. Explain that you will need to talk to someone else. Inform the designated senior person for child protection of your concerns immediately.

For further guidance, ALET Safeguarding and Child Protection policy can be found on the ALET website under the 'policies' tab.