

## Document Control Sheet

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Originator	Director of School Improvement Sarah du Plessis
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Equality Act 2010 issues fully considered	Yes

## Foundation Policy Statement for Safeguarding, incorporating Child Protection and Prevent

The Sir John Brunner Foundation is committed to Safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and expects all staff, volunteers and visitors to share this commitment.

The Foundation aims to provide a caring, positive, safe and stimulating environment which promotes the social, physical and moral development of the individual child, and strives to make sure that every student in the Foundation feels secure, well cared for, and able to reach their full potential.

The Foundation understands and is committed to the vital contribution that all Trustees, Governors, staff, parents and students can make to safeguarding children. Every member of staff has a collective recognition of the importance of providing an environment that helps children feel safe and respected, and a culture that encourages children to talk openly, and have the confidence they will be listened to.

Each Academy of the Sir John Brunner Foundation maintains local policies regarding safeguarding, child protection and prevent. These outline how each individual Academy delivers safeguarding at a local level, and is reviewed on an annual basis by the Local Governing Body.

This document provides the safeguarding policy statement for the whole Foundation and is the statement against which each Academy is delivering. This policy statement is also reviewed on an annual basis by the Board of Trustees and disseminated to individual academies.

### 1 Policy Consultation and Review

- 1.1 All local policies are made available on individual Academy websites. This policy statement is made available on the Sir John Brunner Foundation website. Hard copies of policies are also made available on request from each Academy.
- 1.2 We recognise the expertise of our staff by undertaking safeguarding training and managing safeguarding concerns on a daily basis.
- 1.3 All staff are directed to this policy statement at induction alongside the local policies. In addition, all staff are provided with and are expected to read Part One of the statutory guidance Keeping Children Safe in Education 2023.
- 1.4 Local policies for safeguarding, child protection and prevent will be reviewed on an annual basis by each academy's Local Governing Body.

## 2 Purpose and Aims

- 2.1 The purpose of the Sir John Brunner Foundation policy statement is to ensure that every child who is enrolled at every one of the Academies is safe and protected from harm. This means we will always work to:
- Protect children and young people at the Academies from maltreatment;
  - Prevent the impairment of our children's and young people's health or development;
  - Ensure that children and young people at the Academies grow up in circumstances consistent with the provision of safe and effective care;
  - Undertake the role so as to enable children and young people at each Academy to have the best outcomes.
- 2.2 This policy statement sets out the purpose, aims and ethos of safeguarding across the Foundation. Each Academy within the Foundation will have a specific policy to give clear direction to staff, volunteers, visitors and parents about expected behaviour and our legal responsibility to safeguard and promote the welfare of all children at their Academy.
- 2.3 The Cultural Principles of the Foundation are in line with the fundamental British Values which include:
- Democracy
  - the rule of law
  - individual liberty and
  - mutual respect and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs.
- 2.4 The Foundation takes very seriously the duty to ensure a safe learning environment within which everyone can thrive and achieve their best academically, socially and spiritually.
- 2.5 The Foundation fully recognises the contribution it can make to protect children from harm and supporting and promoting the welfare of all children who are enrolled at one of our Academies. The elements of our policy are prevention, protection and support.
- 2.6 This policy statement applies to all pupils and students, staff, parents/carers, governors, trustees, volunteers and visitors across our Foundation. All pupils and students, staff, parents/carers, governors, trustees, volunteers and visitors in individual Academies should refer to the local policy on safeguarding held at those Academies.

### 3 Our Ethos

- 3.1 The child's welfare is of paramount importance. The Foundation will establish and maintain an ethos where pupils and students feel secure, are encouraged to talk, are listened to and are safe. Children at the Academies will be able to talk freely to any member of staff in their Academy if they are worried or concerned about something.
- 3.2 Everyone who comes into contact with children and their families has a role to play in safeguarding children. We recognise that staff across the Foundation and at the Academies play a particularly important role as they are in a position to identify concerns early and provide help for children to prevent concerns from escalating. All staff are advised to maintain an attitude of 'it could happen here' where safeguarding is concerned. When concerned about the welfare of a child, staff members must always act in the best interests of the child.
- 3.3 All staff and regular visitors to the Academies will, through training and induction, know how to recognise indicators of concern, how to respond to a disclosure from a child and how to record and report this information. We will not make promises to any child and we will not keep secrets. Every child will know what the adult will have to do with any information they have chosen to disclose.
- 3.4 The curriculum in each Academy will provide activities and opportunities for children to develop the skills they need to identify risks and stay safe. This will also be extended to include material that will encourage our children to develop essential life skills. Teaching children about how to stay safe and behave online, including identifying risks and how and when to seek support is crucial.
- 3.5 At all times, the Academies will work in partnership and endeavour to establish effective working relationships with parents, carers and colleagues from other agencies in line with Working Together to Safeguard Children (2018).
- 3.6 As part of our responsibilities for safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children, the Academies will provide a co-ordinated offer of early help when additional needs of children are identified. These may include if a child:
- Has a disability or specific additional needs;
  - Has special educational needs (whether or not they have an Education Health and Care Plan);
  - Is a young carer;
  - Is showing signs of being drawn in to anti-social or criminal behaviour, including gang involvement and association with organised crime groups;

- Is frequently missing/goes missing from care or from home;
- Is misusing drugs or alcohol themselves;
- Is at risk of modern slavery, trafficking or exploitation, County Lines;
- Is in a family circumstance presenting challenges for the child, such as substance abuse, mental health problems or domestic abuse;
- Has returned home to their family from care;
- Is showing the early signs of abuse and/or neglect;
- Is at risk of being radicalised or exploited;
- Has experienced Child-on-Child abuse;
- Is a privately fostered child.

For further details, please see the local policy documents held by each Academy in the Foundation. These include:

- Roles and responsibilities
- Training and Induction
- Procedures for managing concerns
- Specific Safeguarding issues
- Recording and information sharing
- Working with parents and carers
- Child Protection Conferences
- Safer Recruitment
- Safer Working Practice
- Managing allegations against staff
- The statutory framework
- Local Safeguarding procedures
- Other relevant policies