



Orchard and Shepherdswell  
Academy

# Orchard Academy Child Protection Statement

2020-2021

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Orchard Academy believes that it is never acceptable for a child or young person to experience abuse of any kind and recognises its responsibility to safeguard the welfare of all children and young people, by a commitment to practice which protects them. This statement should be read in conjunction with Orchard Academy's East Midlands Academy Trust's (EMAT) Safeguarding Policy 2020-2021.

**We recognise that:**

- The welfare of the child/young person is paramount.
- All children, regardless of age, disability, gender, racial heritage, religious belief, sexual orientation or identity, have the right to equal protection from all types of harm or abuse.
- Working in partnership with children, young people, their parents, carers and their agencies is essential in promoting young people's welfare. This includes working together to prevent the impairment of the mental and physical health and development of a child.
- Staff at our academies play a particularly important role as they are in a position to identify concerns early, and provide access to Early Help for children to prevent concerns from escalating.

**The purpose of the statement:**

- To provide protection for the children and young people who receive EMAT's services, including the children of adult member or users.
- To provide staff and volunteers with guidance on procedures they should adopt in the event that they suspect a child or young person may be experiencing, or be at risk of, harm.

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

**We will seek to safeguard children and young people by:**

- Valuing them, listening to and respecting them.
- Adopting child protection guidelines through procedures and a code of conduct for staff and volunteers.
- Ensuring all staff and volunteers are aware of the main categories of abuse:
  - Physical Abuse
  - Emotional Abuse
  - Sexual Abuse – Including Child Sexual Exploitation
  - Neglect Abuse
- Ensuring if any member of staff has a concern that a child in their care has suffered any of these forms of abuse, they report their concerns to, and seek advice from the Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL), or in his/her absence, the Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead (DDSL), as soon as possible, and never later than the end of the working day. If there is concern as to whether it is safe to allow the child to go home that day, then all effort must be made to inform the (DSL) immediately so that the Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) can be informed and the necessary protective measures implemented.
- Recruiting staff and volunteers safely, ensuring all necessary checks are made.
- Sharing information with regard to child protection and good practice with children, parents, staff and volunteers.
- Sharing information about concerns with agencies who need to know, and involving parents and children appropriately.
- Providing effective management for staff and volunteers through supervision, support and training.
- Ensure that mechanisms are in place to assist staff to understand and discharge their roles and responsibilities as set out in KSCIE.

**We are also committed to reviewing our policy and good practice on an annual basis.**