



Safeguarding and Child Protection statement

Last reviewed: September 2022

This document applies to all schools and operations of the Vale Academy Trust. www.vale-academy.org

Document Control		
Review period	12 Months	
Owner	Chief Executive	
Next review	September 2023	

Introduction

The Vale Academy Trust is committed to ensuring that all children and young people in its schools are safe and protected from harm.

Each school within the Vale Academy Trust has its own Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy. This statement outlines the requirements for schools and for the Trust central team. It also outlines the role of Local Authority and the Local Safeguarding Children Board.

Individual School Policies

It is a requirement that all schools in the Vale Academy Trust have their own Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy. A model policy template is drawn up by the Trust with reference to the Local Authority and the Local Safeguarding Children Board. This model policy must be adopted by schools and reviewed annually.

All Vale Academy Trust school staff working in regulated activity with children and young people receive appropriate training each year. There is an ongoing programme of training throughout the year to make sure that safeguarding is at the forefront of people's minds.

All vetting procedures are in place and recorded on the school's single central records before adults are allowed to work with children and young people.

The Trust Central Team

Members of the Vale Academy Trust central team should follow both the Trust Central Team guidance and the Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy for the school where they are based/visit.

Our Safeguarding Lead, who is Level 3 safeguarding trained, works with individual schools to make sure that they are compliant in all areas related to safeguarding.

In addition, all members of the Central Team who visit schools have completed the appropriate safeguarding training so that they can play a part in ensuring that children and young people are safe.

Trustees receive annual training and are responsible for ratifying all Trust policies which can be found on the Trust website. The Safeguarding Trustee liaises closely with our Safeguarding Strategic Steering Committee to provide robust oversight of safeguarding practices across the Trust.

All members of the Central Team who lead on interviews have received safer recruitment training in order to ensure that all employees and volunteers are safe to work with children and young people.

The Role of the Local Authority and Local Safeguarding Children Board

Vale Academy Trust schools are still accountable to the Local Authority. The Local Authority and the Local Safeguarding Children Board update the model safeguarding and child protection policy every September, and this will be used as the basis for the school's policies.

Designated Safeguarding Leads in the Trust

A current list of Designated Safeguarding Leads for the Trust is held by the Trust Central Team. If these roles change, it is the responsibility of the Headteacher at each Trust School to inform the person responsible for the statement so that the list may remain up-to-date.

Contacts

Please refer to school policies which state who and how to contact key individuals in the schools concerning safeguarding and child protection matters. Should you wish to contact the Trust directly about a safeguarding or child protection matter please contact the Chief Executive at the Trust Central Office: email enquiries@vale-academy.org or telephone 01235 754070

If you have concerns about a child or want to find out more about how your child's school carries out their safeguarding procedures, please contact the headteacher or visit the school's website.

You can also contact the Local Authority Designated Officer (LADO)

Oxfordshire LADO

01865 810603

Lado.safeguardingchildren@oxfordshire.gov.uk

Or the Oxfordshire Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH)

0345 050 7666