

Safeguarding Children in Education

This places a duty on LEAs, Governing Bodies of maintained schools and corporations of FE institutions in relation to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and in doing so have regard to any guidance given by the Secretary of State.

'Safeguarding Children in Education' was issued by the DFES on 6th September 2004 and becomes the statutory guidance.

This guidance is not about what action an individual should do, it is about the infrastructure and arrangements that must be in place to safeguard and promote the welfare of children.

Failure to have these arrangements in place as required by Section 175 or to have regard to the guidance, may be grounds for the Secretary of State to take action against the LEA or Governing body of a school.

An outline of what a school should do or have in place is listed below, taken from the guidance:

1. A named **Designated Person (Teacher)** who is a senior member of the school staff for child protection and a deputy. They must have undertaken the LEA/ACPC recognised training which is updated every two years. The designated teacher is required to read the guidance.
2. A **named Governor for Child Protection** who has also been trained. It is recommended that all governors receive training.
3. A **school Child Protection Policy and Procedures**, which is reviewed annually, which conforms to Area Child Protection Committee (ACPC) procedures and about which staff are made aware. The Policy should be made available for parents on request.
4. **All staff to be given appropriate training in Child Protection** and updated every three years.
5. **New staff** (teaching, non teaching, volunteers and temporary) should have **Child Protection included in their induction training**.
6. Head teachers should ensure that sufficient time and resources are allocated to enable an appropriate person (usually the designated teacher or Head teacher) to **prepare reports and attend Child Protection Conferences** and core groups concerning pupils in their school and work with the relevant agencies. This includes Child Protection conference, which occur during the school holidays.

7. **Procedures** in place for **dealing with allegations of abuse against members of staff.**
8. **Safe recruitment and selection practices** and checks in place.
9. Arrangements in place for **safeguarding children in work experience placements.**
10. **Staff** who **arrange, vet or monitor work experience placements** should have been **trained in child protection.**
11. The **Governing body to provide the LEA with information** about how their duties have been discharged.

A full copy of the guidance can be found on the following website and it is very important that all Head Teachers and Governing bodies consider the whole document and the implications for their own school:

www.teachernet.gov.uk/childprotection/guidance.htm

Useful information:

Child Protection training:

Information can be found on Management Information sheet MI 173/04

Model child protection policies and procedures:

MI sheet MI212/01

Or on Dfes Website ; www.teachernet.gov.uk

Procedures for dealing with allegations against staff:

MI Sheet 42/98

Or DFES website : www.teachernet.gov.uk

Norfolk Area Child Protection Committee Procedures:

Norfolk ACPC website;

www.acpc.norfolk.gov.uk

Booklet 'What to do if you're worried a child is being abused'.

Copies from www.doh.gov.uk/safeguarding

Or MI sheet 173/03

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