ESC62

SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN AND VULNERABLE ADULTS PROTECTION POLICY

1. Introduction

1.1 East Surrey College is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children, young people and vulnerable adults and to ensuring that action is taken to support them if abuse is suspected.

1.2 The College expects all staff, governors, volunteers and those contracted to provide services to share this commitment.

1.3 The College has statutory duties in relation to children, young people and vulnerable adults under the Children Acts (1989 and 2004), the Education Act 2002, The Further Education (Providers of Education) (England) Regulations (2006), the Safeguarding and Vulnerable Groups Act (2006) and The Counter-Terrorism and Securities Act (2015) and it is the intention of the procedures within this Policy to ensure that the appropriate action is taken to discharge these duties

1.4 Further reference sources used in producing this Policy statement include the DfE publications: 'Working Together to Safeguard Children' (2016); 'Safeguarding Children and Safer Recruitment in Education' (2007); 'Keeping Children Safe in Education: Statutory Guidance for Schools and Colleges (September 2015). 'Guidance for Safer Working Practice for Adults who work with Children and Young People in Education Settings' Children, schools and families March 2009

1.5 In order to ensure a co-ordinated approach to safeguarding, child protection and vulnerable adults, the College will liaise closely with the Surrey Safeguarding Children Board via the Multiagency Support HUB (MASH).

1.6 Throughout this Policy, reference is made to "children and vulnerable adults". The terms 'young people' and 'students' are used here in recognition that the minimum age of study at the College is 14 with most aged 16-18. The College is also required to recognise the risks to vulnerable adults and will integrate support and protection to such students within the College's protection procedures.

1.7 The categories of abuse recognised for the purposes of child protection and protection of vulnerable adults are given in Appendix 1 in the Safeguarding Procedure.

2. Scope of Policy

2.1 There are four main elements to our Policy:

(i) Providing a safe environment for students through the risk assessment, teaching and pastoral support offered

(ii) Ensuring we practise effective procedures:

- for safe recruitment, in checking the suitability of staff and volunteers to work with children and vulnerable adults;
- for identifying and reporting cases, or suspected cases, of abuse.

(iii) Supporting students who may have been abused or neglected or are at risk

(iv) Ensure we work in partnership with the Prevent team and Channel Panel to meet our legal obligation to reduce the risk of vulnerable people being drawn into terrorism-related activity.

2.2 This Policy applies to all staff, governors, volunteers, cleaners and contractors working for East Surrey College in all locations where education and training is delivered to children and vulnerable adults.

2.3 This Policy applies also to those situations where students are in a workplace setting undertaking vocational training for work experience on Apprenticeships or studying for vocational qualifications.

2.4 This Policy includes collaborative provision and staff employed directly by sub- contractors supplying services on behalf of the College.

3 Providing a Safe Environment

3.1 The College recognises:

(i) that high self-esteem, confidence, supportive relationships and good lines of communication with a trusted adult help prevent abuse and reduce the risk of vulnerable people being drawn into terrorism-related activity.

(ii) that because of their regular contact with students, College staff are well placed to observe the outward signs of abuse or neglect and vulnerability to influence from others.

3.2 The College will therefore:

(i) establish and maintain an ethos and environment appropriate for learning where students feel secure, are encouraged to talk and are listened to; inviting regular feedback to ensure this is maintained.

(ii) ensure that students know who they can contact in the College if they are worried or in difficulty or if they suspect that someone else is suffering any form of abuse or are vulnerable to influence from others including engagement with a group, cause or ideology.

(iii) include opportunities in the curriculum for young people and vulnerable adults to develop the skills they need to recognise and stay safe from abuse or undue influence from others and which help them to develop realistic attitudes to the responsibilities of adult life.

(iv) inform students about other relevant sources of information, advice and support.

(v) ensure that all staff are fully aware of their responsibilities with regard to safeguarding and Prevent strategies including the Channel process through the provision of regular CPD to keep staff up to date with developments and dangers for example, those posed by the internet.

4. Monitoring

This Policy will be reviewed annually and monitored in accordance with College monitoring procedures.

5. Access to Policy

This Policy is available on the College Intranet and Website.

6. Training and Guidance

Questions about this Policy and/or Procedure, and requests for training, guidance or information on this Policy and/or Procedure, should be directed to the Director of Human Resources and Professional Development.

7. Mechanisms for Feedback

Constructive comment on the continued improvement of this Policy is welcomed and should be forwarded to the Director of Human Resources and Professional Development.

8. References

Attendance and Punctuality Procedure
College Charter
Continuing Professional Development Policy
Data Protection Policy
Disclosure and Barring Service Check Policy
Drugs and Alcohol Policy
Equality Scheme and Objectives
Educational Visits and Off Site Activities Procedure and Flow Chart
Health and Safety Policy
Staff Disciplinary Policy and Procedure
Wellbeing and Resilience at Work Policy

Student Disciplinary Policy and Procedure
Student Voice Policy
Student and Staff Codes of Conduct – including IT Codes of Conduct
Work Experience Toolkit and Flowchart
The Channel Process within FE Colleges
Prevent Strategy
Public Interest Disclosure Policy

9. Further information
None

10 Produced by: Associate Director, Student Support **Date:** 3 November 2017

11. Approved by Committee: Learning and Quality Committee **Date:** 9 November 2017

12. Approved by Corporation Board: **Date:** 14 December 2017

13. Review by: October 2018

14. Policy Code: ESC 62