



Safeguarding Statement

The Trust recognises its responsibility under section 175 of the Education Act 2002 to safeguard and promote the welfare of children. We are committed to working with other organisations and agencies to ensure good arrangements within the schools to identify, assess and support those children who are suffering harm or are at risk of harm.

The principles on which our policies are based apply to all trustees, governors, staff, volunteers and external agencies or companies working in or with our schools. We ensure that the following key elements are in place:

- a secure environment, for on-site and off-site school activities, in which children can feel safe, learn, develop and thrive
- strong systems and procedures for early intervention including on-site access to social care professionals where appropriate
- resilience programmes to help children and adults to build the confidence and emotional resilience to deal with adversity
- safe recruitment in checking the suitability of staff and other adults who work with the children
- awareness raising about safeguarding issues and equipping children with the knowledge and skills they need to keep themselves safe
- procedures for identifying and supporting cases, or suspected cases of abuse
- support for children who are subject to neglect or abuse and contributions to child protection plans
- school communities and all visitors to the schools are made aware of the WHST commitment to safeguarding
- regular reviews of safeguarding policies and procedures to ensure they are fit for purpose.