

Safeguarding Governor

Summary

Safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children is defined as:

- Protecting children from maltreatment
- Preventing impairment of children's health or development
- Ensuring that children are growing up in circumstances consistent with the provision of safe and effective care
- And taking action to enable all children to have the best outcomes

Schools play a vital role in safeguarding as they are in a position to identify concerns early, provide help for children, and prevent concerns from escalating. All staff within school have a responsibility to provide a safe environment in which children can learn and should be prepared to identify children who may benefit from early help and support social workers and other agencies following any referral.

Local Governing Bodies should appoint a safeguarding link governor; this can be any governor including a member of staff but must be separate from the designated safeguarding lead (DSL), in order to ensure there is sufficient challenge to the organisation's safeguarding arrangements and performance.

The safeguarding governor should provide a link between the Governing Body, committees and staff of the school regarding aspects of safeguarding. The safeguarding governor should take a strategic approach to monitoring safeguarding arrangements.

Key Responsibilities and Duties

- Keep up to date with statutory guidance relating to safeguarding and child protection
- Attend training for safeguarding link governors
- Ensure the governing board has suitable and up-to-date policies for:
 - Child protection
 - Staff code of conduct/behaviour
 - Handling allegations against staff and volunteers
- Ensure the school has appropriate safeguarding responses to children who go missing from education, to help identify the risk of abuse and neglect and help prevent further incidents
- Ensure the school has appropriate online filters and monitoring systems in place
- Report back to the full governing about safeguarding issues and developments
- Encourage other members of the board to develop their understanding of their safeguarding responsibilities
- Make sure the school has appointed a designated teacher to promote the educational achievement of looked after children, and that this person has appropriate training

- Meet regularly with the Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) to monitor that the school's policy and procedures are effective and all staff, governors and volunteers have had the appropriate level of training (as applicable)
- Make sure the DSL has sufficient time, resources and training to carry out their role effectively
- Ensure the curriculum covers safeguarding, including online safety
- Monitor the single central record (SCR) alongside the DSL to ensure the school carries out the appropriate recruitment checks on staff and trustees