

Safeguarding Statement

Birchwood Community High School

Policy owner (Name)	Angela Clark
Policy owner (Job Title):	Acting Designated Safeguarding Lead
Governing body oversight:	FGB
Date of review:	September 2024
Date of next review:	September 2025

The basis of this statement is provided by the latest version of the statutory ['Working Together to Safeguard Children'](#) and ['Keeping Children Safe in Education 2024'](#). This statement and the linked guidance cover all children in our School, where a child is defined as anyone under the age of eighteen.

Keeping Children Safe in Education states, "Everyone who comes into contact with children and their families has a role to play in safeguarding. Safeguarding is defined as protecting children from maltreatment; preventing impairment of children's health or development; ensuring that children grow up in circumstances consistent with the provision of safe and effective care; and taking action to enable all children to have the best outcomes."

The purpose of this statement and the directions it provides are planned, implemented and regularly reviewed in order to:

1. Protect children from maltreatment and significant harm
2. Prevent impairment of children's health and wellbeing

Most important, this involves taking action to enable all children achieve the best outcomes.

Our safeguarding network is underpinned by an ethos of constant vigilance. All staff have a pivotal role to safeguard children and they are duty bound to provide help for all. We should identify concerns early and implement school policy to prevent concerns from escalating to a point where a child is at risk of significant harm. Action will be taken to promote the welfare of all children and this will be done even if they are not suffering harm or are at immediate risk. Where a child is suffering significant harm, or is likely to do so, action will be taken to protect the child. In the case of physical, emotional, sexual abuse and neglect, the school will make a referral to Children's Social Care.

In order to fulfil our safeguarding duties, Birchwood Community High School have a robust suite of Safeguarding Policies and Procedures:

Policy	
1. Staff Code of Conduct	2. Child Protection
3. Special Educational Needs	4. Behaviour and Discipline
5. Early Help Statement	6. Online Safety Policy
7. Safer Recruitment	8. School Visitors
9. Attendance	10. Health and Safety
11. Anti-bullying	12. Educational Visits
13. Whistleblowing Procedures	14. Managing Allegations Against Staff
15. Sex & Relationships Education	

In **2024-20254**, the named **Designated Safeguarding Leads (DSL)** are **Jenni Richards and Sam Rigby-White, and the Deputy DSL is Angela Clark**. If you have **any** concerns, please discuss these promptly and make a direct report to the DSL using CPOMS. If the concern is urgent, please find a DSL immediately to discuss. In their absence, please contact Emma Mills, the Headteacher.

This Statement complies with:

1. *Children’s Act 1989 and 2005*
2. *Section 175 of the Education Act 2002*
3. *Working Together to Safeguard Children - Statutory Guidance (December 2023)*
4. *Keeping Children Safe in Education - Statutory Guidance (September 2024)*

Useful link

['Keeping Children Safe in Education 2024'](#)

['Working Together to Safeguard Children'](#)