

SAFEGUARDING POLICY

Safeguarding

This policy applies to all Skills Edge Training (SET) staff and Network Members or anyone working on behalf of SET. This policy should be read in conjunction with the Child Protection Policy and Procedures

The purpose of this policy is:

- To protect children and young people who receive training from AFA and its Network Members
- To provide all staff with the overarching principles that guide our approach to safeguarding

SET believes that a child or young person should never experience abuse of any kind. We have a responsibility to promote the welfare of all children and young people and to keep them safe. We are committed to practice in a way that protects them.

What is safeguarding?

Safeguarding is the action that is taken to promote the welfare of children and protect them from harm.

Safeguarding means:

- protecting children from abuse and maltreatment
- preventing harm to children's health or development
- ensuring children grow up with the provision of safe and effective care
- taking action to enable all children and young people to have the best outcomes.

Safeguarding children and child protection [guidance and legislation](#) applies to all children up to the age of 18

Legal Framework

This policy has been drawn up on the basis of law and guidance that seeks to protect children, namely:

- Children Act 1989
- United Convention of the rights of the Child 1991
- Data Protection Act 1998
- Sexual Offences Act 2003
- Children Act 2004
- Protection of Freedoms Act 2012
- Relevant government guidance on safeguarding children

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We recognise that:

- The welfare of the child is paramount, as enshrined in the Children Act 1989
- All children, regardless of age, disability, gender, racial heritage, religious belief, sexual orientation or identity, have a right to equal protection from all types of harm or abuse
- Some children are additionally vulnerable because of the impact of previous experiences, their level of dependency, communication needs or other issues
- Working in partnership with children, young people, their parents, carers and other agencies is essential in promoting young people's welfare

For the purposes of our Child Protection Policy and Procedures, we define a child as any person under 18 years, or those who are considered vulnerable.

Skills Edge Training (SET) Child Protection Policy and Procedures apply to all children regardless of gender, ethnicity, disability, sexuality or religion.

SET is committed to practices that protect children from harm and it is the duty of all SET staff and Network Members, to take steps to prevent the physical, sexual and emotional abuse of all children with who they come into contact. This Child Protection Policy outlines how SET deals with child protection issues and is intended to safeguard the children who come into contact with staff.

We will endeavour to safeguard children by: -

- Adopting child protection procedures and a code of conduct for all staff who have direct contact with children
- Valuing them, listening to and respecting them
- Having a clear procedure for dealing with child protection issues and concerns about children's welfare
- Ensuring that all SET staff and Network Members who have direct contact with children are subject to careful selection procedures, in line with the DBS guidelines
- Ensuring that all SET staff and Network Members are aware of our child protection policy, procedures and code of conduct and understand their responsibilities
- Ensuring that children and their parents and carers are made aware of SET's Child Protection Policy and who they should contact if they have child protection concerns
- Appointing a designated child protection representative to enable any concerns to be reported in accordance with our procedures

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- Reviewing our Child Protection Policy and procedures on an annual basis. Feedback from staff, children, parents and Network Members about child protection issues will be taken into account in these reviews
- Sharing concerns with agencies who need to know, involving parents and children appropriately

SET's child protection representative is:

Paul Curtis, or Charlotte Andrews in his absence.

The child protection representative can be contacted via the SET office on 03333 583559

Training of Staff and Network Members

All SET staff and Network Members will be made aware of SET's Child Protection Policy as part of their induction. Staff and Network Members who are involved in day to day work, events and projects in which they have direct contact with children may be asked to attend a child protection training course.

We are committed to reviewing our policy and good practice annually.

James Miller
Commercial Director

Date: 01 August 2016