



LINCOLN COLLEGE

**SAFEGUARDING POLICY AND
PROCEDURES**

POLICY SG/PO/4

SPONSOR
Chief People Officer

EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY STATEMENT

Lincoln College strives to treat all its members and visitors fairly and aims to eliminate unjustifiable discrimination on the grounds of gender, race, nationality, ethnic or national origin, political beliefs or practices, disability, marital status, family circumstances, sexual orientation, spent criminal convictions, age or any other inappropriate grounds.

LINCOLN COLLEGE

SAFEGUARDING POLICY AND ACCOMPANYING PROCEDURES

Contents

Section	Content	Page Number
1	Purpose	1
2	Aim	2
3	Introduction	2
4	Designated staff with responsibility for safeguarding	8
5	Dealing with disclosure of abuse and procedure for reporting concerns	9
6	Supervision	11
7	Multi-Agency Working	11
8	Online Safety	11
9	Allegations of abuse made against other children	12
10	Allegations of abuse made against members of staff	12
11	Looked After Children	12
12	Children with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities	13
13	Child missing from education	13
14	Preventing Radicalisation	13
15	British Values	14

Appendices

1	Safer Recruitment Procedures	16
2	Bullying and Harassment	18
3	Safeguarding Referrals Flowchart	21
4	Reporting and dealing with allegations of abuse against members of staff	22
5	Professional Conduct Guidelines	27
6	Children in Specific Circumstances	32
7	Identification card/Lanyard	36
8	E-Safety	40
9	Operational and Strategic Safeguarding Groups	45
10	Useful Links for Further Information, Telephone Numbers and Websites	48
11	Video Conference Protocols	50
12	Prevent Referrals	52

LINCOLN COLLEGE

SAFEGUARDING POLICY AND PROCEDURES

1 PURPOSE

- 1.1 Lincoln College has a statutory duty to ensure that all young people and vulnerable adults are safe. The College will promote the safeguarding and welfare of all children and adults at risk of harm in accordance with the Children Act 1989, Children Act 2004 and section 175 of the Education Act 2002. This policy has been written following guidance within the “Working Together to Safeguard Children” 2018 Government guidelines and the Department for Education guidance “Keeping Children Safe in Education” September 2023.
- 1.2 This policy will highlight where the College might consider safeguarding practices differently when compared to business as usual e.g. a pandemic such as COVID-19.
- 1.3 Throughout this policy and associated procedures, reference is made to children. Children includes everyone under the age of 18. The College recognises that some adults are also vulnerable to abuse; accordingly, this procedure may also be applied to adults at risk of harm. The definition of an ‘adult at risk of harm’ as defined by The Care Act 2014 as: “Someone who has needs for care and support, who is experiencing, or at risk of, abuse or neglect and as a result of their care needs is unable to protect themselves.”
- 1.4 Throughout this policy and associated procedures, reference is made to teachers. The College accepts that the term teacher includes lecturer or other teaching staff.
- 1.5 The College is committed to ensure that it protects children and adults at risk from maltreatment and ensure they can grow up in a safe and caring environment. The College will:
 - Provide a safe environment for children and adults at risk to learn.
 - Identify and support children and adults at risk who are suffering, or likely to suffer, significant harm.
 - Take appropriate action to ensure that such children and adults at risk are kept safe, both at home and at College.

Related policies that may need to be read in conjunction with this document are:

- Mental Health and Disability Policy
- Drugs and Alcohol Policy
- Criminal Disclosure Policy
- Guidance for the use of Medicines Policy
- Staff Disciplinary Procedures
- Learner Conduct Policy
- Transgender Policy
- E-Safety and Social Media Policy
- Equality and Diversity Policy

- Customer Complaints and Grievance
- Code of Conduct Policy
- Personal Relationships between Students and Staff Policy
- Work Experience Policy
- Recruitment and Selection Code of Practice
- Safer Recruitment Policy
- Suicide Mitigation and Response Policy
- Searching, Screening and Confiscation Policy
- College Appeals Panel Policy and Procedure

2 AIM

- 2.1 This policy statement aims to provide guidance to staff and volunteers representing the College on how to deal with potential safeguarding issues and the procedures they must follow.
- 2.2 In pursuit of these aims, the Governing Body will approve and review policies and procedures with the aim of:
- Raising awareness of issues relating to the welfare of children and adults at risk and the promotion of a safe learning environment.
 - Aiding the identification of children and adults at risk of significant harm.
 - Establishing procedures for reporting and dealing with allegations of abuse against members of staff.
 - The safe recruitment of staff inclusive of agency staff, volunteers and trainees on work placements with the aim of deterring, rejecting or identifying those people who are unsuitable to work within our learning environment.

3 INTRODUCTION

- 3.1 Safeguarding children is the action we take to promote the welfare of children and is defined for the purpose of this guidance as: protecting children from maltreatment; preventing impairment of children's mental and physical health or development; ensuring that children grow up in circumstances consistent with the provision of safe and effective care; and acting to enable all children to have the best outcomes.

Everyone who comes into contact with children, adults at risk and their families have a role to play in safeguarding. In order to fulfil this responsibility effectively, all professionals should make sure their approach is child and adult centred. This means that they should consider at all times, what is in the best interests of the child and the adult at risk.

- 3.2 The College will refer any concerns that a child or adult at risk may be at risk of significant harm. This referral will be to Children's Services/ Adult Social Care as agreed with the Local Authorities with jurisdiction for that child or adult at risk.

The Principal and CEO, College Governors and all staff working with children and adults at risk will receive training to ensure they are familiar with the Safeguarding Policy and Procedures.

All new staff to the College will undertake Level 2 Safeguarding Training as part of their induction. Safeguarding Leads will be trained to Level 3 and are expected to update training every two years. All College Governors and staff will be expected to update their Level 2 Safeguarding training every 2 years. The Designated Safeguarding Lead or Deputies will also ensure that regular updates are shared with staff as required, but at least annually to provide relevant skills and knowledge to safeguard children and adults at risk effectively.

Further information regarding Safeguarding and Prevent training for new staff and managers chairing interviews can be found in section 4 of the Safer Recruitment Policy and in the Safer Recruitment Procedures (Appendix 1).

- 3.3 The Chief People Officer will have special responsibility for safeguarding issues (as the designated senior member of staff with Lead Responsibility. They will be assisted by other members of staff with responsibility for Safeguarding). These staff are referred to as Strategic Safeguarding Leads.
- 3.4 The Board will receive an annual report which reviews how the duties have been disseminated.
- 3.5 All College members should be aware of the signs and symptoms of abuse and neglect so that they are able to identify cases of children who may need help or protection.

Abuse and neglect are forms of maltreatment of a child. The abuse or neglect of a child can be caused by inflicting harm or by failing to act to prevent harm. Children may be abused in a family, in a community or institutional setting, by those known to them or, much more rarely, by a stranger for example via the internet.

The following definitions are taken from September 2023 DfE guidance “Keeping children Safe in Education”. They have been included to assist those providing services to children in assessing whether the child may be suffering actual or potential harm. All staff should be mindful that children or adults at risk may not feel ready to tell someone that they are being abused, exploited, or neglected, and/or they may not recognise their experiences as harmful. This should not prevent staff from having a professional curiosity and raising concerns that they have about a child or adult at risk.

Abuse

A form of maltreatment of a child. Somebody may abuse or neglect a child by inflicting harm or by failing to act to prevent harm. Children may be abused in a family or in an institutional or community setting by those known to them or, more rarely, by others (e.g. via the internet). They may be abused by an adult or adults or by another child or children.

Physical Abuse

A form of abuse which may involve hitting, shaking, throwing, poisoning, burning or scalding, drowning, suffocating or otherwise causing physical harm to a child. Physical harm may also be caused when a parent or carer fabricates the symptoms of, or deliberately induces, illness in a child.

Emotional Abuse

Emotional abuse is the persistent emotional maltreatment of a child such as to cause severe and persistent adverse effects on the child's emotional development.

It may involve conveying to children that they are worthless or unloved, inadequate, or valued only insofar as they meet the needs of another person. It may include not giving the child opportunities to express their views, deliberately silencing them or 'making fun' of what they say or how they communicate.

It may feature age or developmentally inappropriate expectations being imposed on children. These may include interactions that are beyond the child's development capability, as well as over protection and limitation of exploration and learning, or preventing the child participating in normal social interaction.

It may involve seeing or hearing the ill-treatment of another. It may involve serious bullying (including cyber bullying) causing children to feel frightened or in danger or the exploitation or corruption of children. Some level of emotional abuse is involved in all types of maltreatment of children, though it may occur alone.

Sexual Abuse

Sexual abuse involves forcing or enticing a child or young person to take part in sexual activities, not necessarily involving a high level of violence, whether or not the child is aware of what is happening. The activities may involve physical contact, including assault by penetration (for example rape or oral sex) or non-penetrative acts such as masturbation, kissing, rubbing and touching outside of clothing. They may also include non-contact activities, such as involving children in looking at, or in the production of, sexual images, watching sexual images, encouraging children to behave in sexually inappropriate ways, or grooming a child in preparation for abuse (including via the internet). Sexual abuse is not solely perpetrated by adult males. Women can also commit acts of sexual abuse, as can other children.

Neglect

Neglect is the persistent failure to meet a child's basic physical and/or psychological needs, likely to result in the serious impairment of the child's health and development. Neglect may occur during pregnancy as a result of maternal substance misuse. Once a child is born, neglect may involve a parent or carer failing to:

- provide adequate food and clothing, shelter (including exclusion from home or abandonment)
- protect a child from physical and emotional harm or danger
- ensure adequate supervision (including the use of inadequate care-givers)
- ensure access to appropriate medical care or treatment
- It may also include neglect of, or unresponsiveness to, a child's basic emotional needs.

3.6 Specific Safeguarding Issues

All staff should have an awareness of safeguarding issues, some of which are listed below. Staff should be aware that behaviours linked to the likes of drug taking, alcohol abuse, deliberately missing education, taunting and sexting put children in danger.

The Designated Safeguarding Officer (or their nominee) should be informed of all allegations that come to the College's attention so that they can consult Police and Children's' Social Care services as appropriate.

Expert and professional organisations are best placed to provide up-to-date guidance and practical support on specific safeguarding issues. Further information can be found on the TES, MindED and NSPCC websites.

- Sexual Violence and Sexual Harassment
- Child sexual exploitation (CSE)
- Child criminal exploitation
- Children missing education
- Children missing from home or care
- Bullying including cyberbullying
- Domestic violence
- Drugs
- Fabricated or induced illness
- Faith abuse
- Female genital mutilation (FGM) – see also below
- Forced marriage
- Gangs and youth violence
- Gender-based violence/violence against women and girls (VAWG)
- Hate Crime
- Mental health
- Private fostering
- Preventing Radicalisation
- Sexting
- Relationship abuse

3.6.1 Peer on Peer abuse

All staff should be aware that safeguarding issues can manifest themselves via peer on peer abuse. This is most likely to include, but may not be limited to:

- Bullying (including cyberbullying);

- Physical abuse such as hitting, kicking, shaking, biting, hair pulling or otherwise causing physical harm;
- Sexual violence or sexual harassment;
- Initiation/Hazing type violence and rituals

Sexual Violence and Sexual Harassment has been identified as a particular area for concern with recent evidence indicating that peer on peer abuse is prevalent but underreported. There is a zero-tolerance stance to sexual violence and sexual harassment at Lincoln College Group.

Sexual Violence refers to sexual offences under the Sexual Offences Act 2003 and includes offences such as rape, assault by penetration, sexual assault or causing someone to engage in sexual activity without consent.

Sexual Harassment is any “unwanted conduct of a sexual nature” which can occur online or offline. Sexual harassment can include:

- sexual comments, such as: telling sexual stories, making lewd comments
- sexual remarks about clothes and appearance and calling someone sexualised names
- sexual jokes or taunting
- physical behaviour, such as: deliberately brushing against someone or interfering with someone’s clothes
- online sexual harassment. This may be standalone, or part of a wider pattern of sexual harassment and/or sexual violence. It may include: consensual and non-consensual sharing of nude and semi-nude images and/or videos. As set out in UKCIS Sharing nudes and semi-nudes: advice for education settings working with children and young people (which provides detailed advice for schools and colleges). The taking and sharing of nude photographs of U18s is a criminal offence.
- up skirting (is a criminal offence)
- sexualised online bullying
- unwanted sexual comments and messages, including on social media
- sexual exploitation, coercion and threats

Staff should take the attitude that “it can happen here” and not minimise concerns. Any behaviour of sexual harassment should be challenged as to ignore it leads to “normalising” such behaviour.

3.6.2 **Serious Violence**

All staff should be aware of indicators, which may signal that children are at risk from, or involved with serious violent crime. This may include increased absence from College, a change in friendships with older individuals or groups, a significant decline in performance, signs of self-harm or change in wellbeing, or signs of assault or unexplained injuries. Unexplained gifts or possessions could also indicate that children are involved with, or have been approached by individuals associated with criminal gang and networks.

Staff can get further support from the Safeguarding team and also visit the Home Office website for guidance on, 'preventing youth violence and gang involvement' and 'criminal exploitation of children and vulnerable adults – county lines'.

3.6.3 Domestic Abuse

Domestic abuse can encompass a wide range of behaviours and may be a single incident or a pattern of incidents. Abuse can be psychological, physical, sexual, financial or emotional. Children can be victims of domestic abuse and they may see, hear or experience the effects of abuse. Teenagers may also suffer domestic abuse in their own intimate relationships. Staff should report any concerns that they have around domestic abuse to the College's Safeguarding Team.

3.6.4 Female Genital mutilation

If a teacher, in the course of their work in the profession, discovers that an act of Female Genital Mutilation appears to have been carried out on a girl under the age of 18, they must report this to the Police and the College's Safeguarding Team.

3.6.5 Mental Health

All staff should be aware that mental health problems can be an indicator that a child has suffered or is at risk of suffering abuse, neglect or exploitation. Where children have suffered abuse, neglect and other traumatic adverse childhood experiences, this can have a lasting impact through to adulthood. These experiences can impact on their mental health, behaviour and education. If staff have a mental health concern for a child that is also a safeguarding concern, they must report this to the College's Safeguarding Team.

3.7 Operational and Strategic Safeguarding groups

The College is committed to ensuring that staff with an enhanced level of responsibility for Safeguarding have access to information and support. It is also committed to ensuring that complex and /or high risk student applicants or disclosures (including poor mental health) or serious misconduct incidents are carefully considered and risk assessed on an individual basis. Please see Appendix 9 for guidance and information on the process involved in the operational and strategic groups.

3.8 Commercial Activity

Lincoln College has a number of commercial centres and activities that take place, which adds value to the curriculum offer and experience to the learners, as well as enhancing the opportunities in the local community. As we take our responsibilities for safeguarding learners very seriously, each of these ventures have been risk assessed. The risk assessments are stored centrally and are reviewed regularly.

4 DESIGNATED STAFF WITH RESPONSIBILITY FOR SAFEGUARDING

4.1 Senior Staff Member with Lead Responsibility

The designated senior member of staff with Lead Responsibility for Safeguarding issues is the Chief People Officer ext. 6240, or in their absence a Strategic Safeguarding Lead. The Designated Safeguarding Lead and their Deputies are required to be Level 3 safeguarding trained.

4.2 Strategic Safeguarding Leads should:

- Report to the senior member of staff with Lead Responsibility
- Know how to make an appropriate referral
- Be available to provide advice and support to other staff on issues relating to Safeguarding
- Have particular responsibility to be available to listen to children and adults at risk studying at the College
- Ensuring that all completed paperwork is recorded on the safeguarding database
- Ensure that they complete Level 3 safeguarding training every two years and that they read all safeguarding updates

The College has a designated team of staff who are trained to Level 2 Safeguarding, which includes, but it is not exclusive to:

- Student Services Safeguarding Team
- Duty Managers
- Deans Sport and Leisure Duty Managers

During office hours (Monday to Friday) safeguarding responsibility falls to the Student Services Safeguarding Team. Advice, guidance and referrals can be made to the Safeguarding Team via the Single Point of Contact (SPoC). This is a contact number and e-mail address that is monitored from 08.30am to 5pm, Monday to Friday which learners and staff can contact. Any referrals can be made anonymously. The contact details are:

- 07580 975854
- Safeguarding@lincolncollege.ac.uk

After 5pm weekdays or at a weekend, safeguarding responsibility passes to a senior team member who can be contacted on 01522 876000 ext 4000 or 07939 013317.

4.4 Designated Governor

The designated member of the Board of Governors with responsibility for Safeguarding issues is the Chair of the Board of Governors.

The Designated Governor is responsible for liaising with the Principal and CEO and Senior Staff Member with Lead Responsibility over matters regarding safeguarding, including:

- Ensuring that the College has Policy and Procedures which are consistent with the LSCP's procedures
- Ensuring that the Board of Governors reviews and approves the College policy on Safeguarding when significant updates are made
- Ensuring that each year the Board of Governors is informed of how the College and its staff have complied with the policy, including, but not limited to, a report on the training that Governors and staff have undertaken
- Ensure that the College has appropriate procedures in place to respond when children go missing from education, particularly on repeat occasions, to help identify the risks or abuse and neglect including sexual abuse or exploitation and to help prevent them going missing in the future

In the event of an allegation against the Principal and CEO or Senior Staff Member with Lead Responsibility it is the responsibility of The Designated Governor to oversee the liaison between agencies such as the Police and/or Child Services – as defined by the LSCP.

This will not involve undertaking any form of investigation, but will ensure good communication between the parties and provide information to assist enquiries. To assist in these duties, the designated Governor shall receive Level 2 safeguarding training.

4.5 All Staff

All staff members have a responsibility for Safeguarding and monitoring students for any signs or symptoms that something may be causing them worry/harm or distress.

All staff members can contact the Safeguarding team, or one of the Strategic Safeguarding Leads to seek advice and support. Appendix 10 outlines external support in addition to this.

All staff members have a responsibility to ensure that they are wearing their College ID lanyards at all times and it is visible to others. Staff are responsible for ensuring that students are correctly wearing their ID lanyards and to challenge anyone on College premises without appropriate ID, e.g. visitor lanyard. Please see Appendix 7 for the ID Card/Lanyard policy.

5 DEALING WITH DISCLOSURE OF ABUSE AND PROCEDURE FOR REPORTING CONCERNS

- 5.1 Where there is a risk to the life of a child or a likelihood of serious immediate harm 999 should be called. When considering if emergency action is necessary, an agency should always consider whether action is also required to safeguard other children in the same household (e.g. siblings), the household of an alleged perpetrator, or elsewhere. This procedure will be determined primarily by the LSCP, which establishes the locally agreed inter-agency procedures. The following explains the training around disclosure that all staff receives in Safeguarding.

- 5.2 If a child or vulnerable adult tells a member of staff about possible abuse, you must:
- Listen carefully and stay calm
 - Not interview the child or vulnerable adult, but talk to them in a calm and collected manner, recapping key points to aid understanding of the issue
 - Not put words into the child or vulnerable adult's mouth
 - Reassure the child or vulnerable adult that by telling you, they have done the right thing
 - Reassure the child or vulnerable adult that, although information must be shared, it will be on a need to know basis. Inform them that you will need to report the matter
 - Keep the child or vulnerable adult focused on task, encouraging them at all times to ensure they are sharing truthful and accurate information
 - Make a detailed note of the date, time, place, what the child or vulnerable adult said, did, your questions and all the relevant information. Please sign and print your name at the bottom of the record
 - If, at any point, there is a risk of immediate serious harm to a child or vulnerable adult a referral should be made to Children's/Adult Social Care immediately. Anyone can make a referral however, we advise that the referrer should liaise with a Safeguarding Lead.
- 5.3 Staff should not investigate concerns or allegations themselves, but should report them immediately to the designated Person. Please see section 4 for relevant referral numbers.
- A flowchart of Safeguarding referrals can be seen in Appendix 3
- 5.4 All staff and volunteers should feel able to raise concerns about poor or unsafe practice and potential failures in the College's safeguarding regime and know that such concerns will be taken seriously by the senior leadership team.
- 5.5 Please follow the College's whistleblowing procedures if you do not feel confident to report a concern to the Designated Safeguarding Lead. You can also make a referral to the NSPCC whistleblowing helpline if you do not feel able to raise concerns regarding child protection failures internally. Staff can call 0800 028 0285 – line is open 8.00am to 8.00pm, Monday to Friday and email help@nspcc.org.uk
- 5.6 All staff are reminded that the Data Protection Act 2018 and GDPR do not prevent the sharing of information for the purposes of keeping children safe. Fears about sharing information must not be allowed to stand in the way of the need to safeguard and promote the welfare and protect the safety of children.

6 SUPERVISION

- 6.1 The College has an appointed external Supervisor who supports Safeguarding Leads to monitor caseloads and ensure the emotional wellbeing of staff.
- 6.2 The College will ensure that the Supervisor is suitably qualified, registered with the British Association of Counselling and Psychotherapy Practice (BACP) and that they have their own supervision.
- 6.3 Any Safeguarding Lead who has dealt with a particularly challenging case should contact the Head of Student Services to access supervision.
- 6.4 Safeguarding Leads who deal with high caseloads of Safeguarding will be expected to attend monthly supervision.
- 6.5 Any staff member who has referred a Safeguarding case is eligible for counselling. To access this service please contact People Services or the Head of Student Services.

7 MULTI-AGENCY WORKING

The College will ensure that it works with all partner agencies in promoting the welfare of children and adults at risk and be mindful of the importance of information sharing between practitioners and local agencies.

This includes working with the Local Authority Designated Officer (LADO) when concerns are raised or allegations made against staff. Lincoln College will be mindful of the advice and guidance from Social Care, Police, Health Services and other services to promote the welfare of children and adults at risk and protect them from harm.

Lincoln College Group will contribute with the co-ordinated offer of Early Help when additional needs of children are identified and contribute to multi-agency plans to provide additional support to children who are subject to child protection plans.

The College will maintain membership at both a strategic and operational level with the Lincolnshire Safeguarding Children Partnership, where all statutory agencies are represented, to ensure it is updated with local Safeguarding arrangements.

8 ONLINE SAFETY

The College has a responsibility to protect children from harmful and inappropriate online material. As such the College has filters to monitor when students/staff are trying to access inappropriate/harmful sites.

Whilst it is essential that appropriate filters are in place, the College will be careful that it is not “over blocking” sites which could potentially lead to unreasonable restrictions as to what children can be taught with regards to online teaching and safeguarding. Appendix 8 details the E-Safety policy.

The breadth of issues classified within online safety is considerable, but can be categorised into four areas of risk:

- **Content** – being exposed to illegal, inappropriate or harmful material
- **Contact** – being subjected to harmful online interaction with other users
- **Conduct** – personal online behaviour that increases the likelihood of, or causes, harm
- **Commerce** – risk such as online gambling, inappropriate advertising, phishing and/or financial scams.

In response to the coronavirus (COVID-19) some teaching and learning is taking place remotely. Online safety will be promoted through the tutorial CPD programme as well as other mediums including the Safeguarding handbook and resources made available through Moodle, Onefile and Canvas. A guide is also available for staff that are interacting with students remotely in Appendix 11.

9 ALLEGATIONS OF ABUSE MADE AGAINST OTHER CHILDREN

The College recognises that children are capable of abusing their peers, as such the College will ensure that action is taken to minimise peer on peer abuse. There are different forms of peer on peer abuse, as defined in clause 3.6.1, but we are clear that abuse is abuse and should never be tolerated or passed off as “banter” or “part of growing up”.

The College will address issues of peer on peer abuse through bullying and harassment. Please see Appendix 2.

10 ALLEGATIONS OF ABUSE MADE AGAINST MEMBERS OF STAFF

If staff have safeguarding concerns, or an allegation is made about another member of staff (including supply staff and volunteers) posing a risk of harm to children, this must be referred to the Designated Safeguarding Lead. In the event that the concerns are about the Designated Safeguarding Lead then a referral to an alternative GLT member or the Principal and CEO should be made. Appendix 4 contains the processes for reporting and dealing with allegations against members of staff.

Staff are all contractually obliged to notify the College of any criminal convictions occurred whilst employed or any misconduct that occurs outside of work. This includes any allegations of potential gross misconduct made in the course of any secondary employment or holding a public appointment. Guidance can be found in Appendix 5 to outline what the College deems as acceptable and reasonable behaviour to help safeguarding students and reduce the risk of conduct which could be interpreted as improper and lead to allegations being made.

11 LOOKED AFTER CHILDREN

The most common reason for children becoming looked after is as a result of abuse and neglect. The College recognises that these students are particularly vulnerable and will ensure that additional support arrangements are in place to support such learners.

Where the College is aware of looked after children prior to enrolment, a special enrolment will be arranged with the emphasis of additional support, funding and educational outcomes.

Student Services will keep a register of all looked after students and the names of their social workers and ensure that any absence is followed up on a daily basis. Please see Appendix 6 for further information with regards to children in specific circumstances.

12 CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS AND DISABILITIES

Children with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) can face additional challenges. The College will ensure that staff are trained to recognise the additional barriers that this group of children can face.

Consideration will be given to ensure that assumptions are not made that possible indicators of abuse, behaviour, mood or injury relate to the child's disability without further exploration.

The Safeguarding Leads will also take time to ensure that students with communication barriers have support to overcome these challenges to enable them to report safeguarding concerns. Where needed assistance may be sought from the College SENCO or a member of their team to aid communication.

13 CHILD MISSING FROM EDUCATION

As the College provides education to children of compulsory school age, we have a responsibility to follow up anyone who is missing from education. Where a student is missing from class and has not contacted the College the relevant academic area should make every attempt to contact the student (and their parent/guardian where the learner is under 19). If there are any concerns for the learner's wellbeing or safety then it should be referred to the College's Safeguarding Team.

14 PREVENTING RADICALISATION

14.1 Radicalisation refers to the process by which a person comes to support terrorism or forms of extremism. There is no single way to identify an individual who is likely to be susceptible to an extremist ideology, it can happen in many different ways or settings. Specific background factors may contribute to vulnerability which are often combined with specific influences like family, friends or online, and with specific needs for which an extremist or terrorist group may appear to provide the answer. The internet and the use of social media has become a major factor in the radicalisation of young people.

As with other safeguarding risks, staff should be alert to changes in children's behaviour which could indicate that they may need help or protection. Staff should use their judgement in identifying children who may be at risk of radicalisation and act appropriately, which may include a Prevent referral which could lead to a multi-agency Channel panel being initiated, Appendix 12.

- 14.2 Channel is a Government programme which focuses on providing support to people who are identified as being vulnerable to being drawn into terrorism. The programme uses a multi-agency approach to protect vulnerable people by:
- Identifying individuals at risk
 - Assessing the nature and extent of that risk
 - Developing the most appropriate support plan for the individuals concerned.
- 14.3 Any such concerns should be recorded in writing and reported to the Designated Safeguarding Lead or their Deputy. They will liaise with Lincolnshire or Nottinghamshire Police as appropriate. The College will ensure it notifies the Department via the Contact Form where the College is aware of an incident, or pattern of incidents, which undermines the promotion of British fundamental values or the ability of the College to comply with the Prevent Duty. A Contact Form will also be completed where there is a referral of an individual member of College Personnel for the purposes of determining whether that member of College Personnel should be referred to a panel for the carrying out of an assessment under section 36 of the Counter Terrorism and Security Act 2015 of the extent to which that individual is vulnerable to being drawn into terrorism.
- 14.4 The College will also promote the ethos of the 'Prevent' agenda by encouraging free and open debate but challenging extreme views. It will encourage through its classroom practice, theme weeks and induction activities, a belief in Equality of Opportunity and the celebration of Diversity.
- 14.5 The College will not host or allow its premises to be used by extreme groups and will seek to prevent the distribution of extreme literature.
- 14.6 The College has a legal responsibility to forbid the promotion of partisan political views in the teaching of any subject in the College and must take such steps, as are reasonably practicable to secure that where political issues are brought to the attention of students they are offered a balanced presentation of opposing views. Promotion of any organisations linked to violent extremism is contrary to the values of the College and could constitute misconduct.
- 14.7 The College will provide appropriate support through its own staff or by referral to external agencies, for any student in danger of radicalisation.
- 14.8 All staff will complete mandatory training.
- 14.9 The Board of Governors will all receive Prevent training.

15 BRITISH VALUES

Lincoln College will promote British Values to all students and staff through literature and electronic information.

According to Ofsted, 'fundamental British Values' are:

- Democracy
- The rule of law
- Individual liberty
- Mutual respect and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs.

Although the official term used by the Government is 'tolerance' of different faiths and beliefs. At Lincoln College we welcome and accept everyone with different faiths and beliefs.

The College takes both the risk of radicalisation and promoting of British Values very seriously and has appointed a Safeguarding Officer whose role it is to focus on raising awareness to students and supporting staff.

APPENDIX 1

SAFER RECRUITMENT PROCEDURES

This section should be read in conjunction with the College's Recruitment and Selection Code of Practice and Safer Recruitment Policy.

The College has Recruitment and Selection Code of Practice and a Safer Recruitment Policy in place to ensure that Lincoln College complies with procedures and regulations relating to Safer Recruitment and any other relevant legislative requirements.

The aim of the Safer Recruitment Policy and associated procedures is to detail the relevant legislation applicable and checks that are required for any individual working for Lincoln College, to ensure that they are suitable to work within our learning environment.

These safer recruitment checks are in place to:

- **Deter** unsuitable people from seeking employment or opportunities to volunteer to work with children and young people
- **Reject** applications from unsuitable people
- **Identify** people who might abuse children.

Safer Recruitment is about more than obtaining a satisfactory criminal record check. It is about attracting the right candidate for the post and ensuring that the information a candidate has given on their application form is consistent, can be verified and is accurate.

Having Safer Recruitment practices in place can also help to assess whether the candidate has the right attitudes, values and behaviours to work with young people.

Safer Recruitment is embedded into the Lincoln College recruitment process to ensure the following:

- Students are able to learn and thrive in a safe environment
- Statutory responsibilities are adhered to
- Appropriate staff are appointed for the job they do
- Recruited staff and volunteers are the best in their field.

The Safer Recruitment Policy, along with the Lincoln College Recruitment and Selection Code of Practice, describes in detail the recruitment processes and the checks which are in place to help deter, reject or identify people who are unsuitable to work within our learning environment.

Our Safer Recruitment practices cover:

- Training for new starters - in line with the Keeping Children Safe in Education statutory guidance, all staff undergo mandatory safeguarding training at induction. This safeguarding training is in line with advice from Lincolnshire Safeguarding Children Partnership (LSCP) and is updated regularly
- Training for managers to ensure that all managers involved in the recruitment process are aware of their responsibilities with regards to safer recruitment practices

- Information available to candidates to help deter those that are unsuitable from applying and to ensure those that are successfully appointed are clear on the culture of safeguarding and its importance within Lincoln College
- Safer Recruitment Checks – Including References, DBS, Prohibition Checks and Right to Work in the UK plus any other checks the College deem appropriate, as detailed in the safer recruitment policy.

Please consult the Safer Recruitment Policy and Recruitment and Selection Code of Practice for detailed guidance.

APPENDIX 2

BULLYING AND HARASSMENT PROCEDURE

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 The procedure needs to be read in conjunction with the Equality Act 2010. This lays down protected characteristics which need to be considered. The protected characteristics are:

- Age
- Disability
- Race
- Gender (including Transgender)
- Religion and Belief
- Sexual Orientation
- Marriage and Civil Partnership
- Pregnancy and Maternity
- Sex

1.2 Lincoln College deems that it is unacceptable that any student, staff or visitor should be bullied or harassed. As such, the College is committed to challenging and eliminating all forms of discrimination, bullying and harassment.

2 IDENTIFICATION OF BULLYING AND HARASSMENT

2.1 Harassment is defined as tormenting or persistent attacks which causes the recipient distress. Bullying is defined as a conscious, wilful, and deliberate activity intended to harm, induce fear through the threat of further aggression, and create terror.

2.2 Staff are reminded that bullying and harassment can take place by children towards other children, sometimes referred to as, 'peer on peer' abuse. All types of abuse are a breach of College rules regardless of the age of the perpetrator.

2.3 The following examples of bullying and harassment all constitute a breach of College rules and should be acted upon immediately. This is not an exhaustive list: other concerns will be considered by the College if the recipient experiences fear or distress. Examples include:

- Physical assault against a person or group
- Verbal abuse or threats
- Discriminatory language or inappropriate comments
- Name calling, insults or offensive language
- Derogatory comments in the course of class discussions
- Graffiti or the display of any material which is demeaning or insulting
- Unnecessary touching or unwanted physical contact
- Intentionally taking a photograph(s) under a person's clothing without them knowing to view their genitals or buttocks (known as, 'up skirting')
- Inappropriate use of verbal and non-verbal physical gestures

- Offensive displays or use of discriminatory materials, such as leaflets, posters, magazines, films, videos or computer programmes within the College
- Sending or receiving sexually explicit or suggestive images, messages, or video on a smartphone or through the internet (known as, 'sexting')
- Cyber Bullying – this is the malicious use of information on social media or in a community domain e.g. mobile phones, Social networking sites, Instant Messenger, email and electronic gaming sites.

3 ACKNOWLEDGING AND CHALLENGING BULLYING AND HARASSMENT

- 3.1 All students and staff at the College have a responsibility to act positively if encountering harassment or bullying.
- 3.2 The College management will ensure that incidents of this nature are dealt with in a consistent manner and within the conduct procedures of the College.

4 DEALING WITH HARASSMENT

4.1 Students

- Any incidents of harassment or bullying should be reported to a course tutor. If evidence shows that the bullying and harassment is extreme this must be reported to a Safeguarding Lead for advice about whether external agencies, such as the Police, need to be involved
- A student, or their parent/carer, may contact external services such as the Police independently
- Offenders may be the subject to College conduct procedures
- Those who have been bullied or harassed should be offered support from a College Counsellor

4.2 Staff

- Both overt and covert bullying and harassment by any member of staff should be reported to their line manager, who will take the appropriate action
- Staff members who have been harassed or bullied should be supported to obtain access to support from a trained Counsellor or seek further advice from a Trade Union
- Offenders will be subject to College Conduct Procedures

4.3 Visitors

Any incidents of bullying and harassment by a visitor or volunteer to the College should be reported to a Safeguarding Lead within Student Services.

4.4 **Governors**

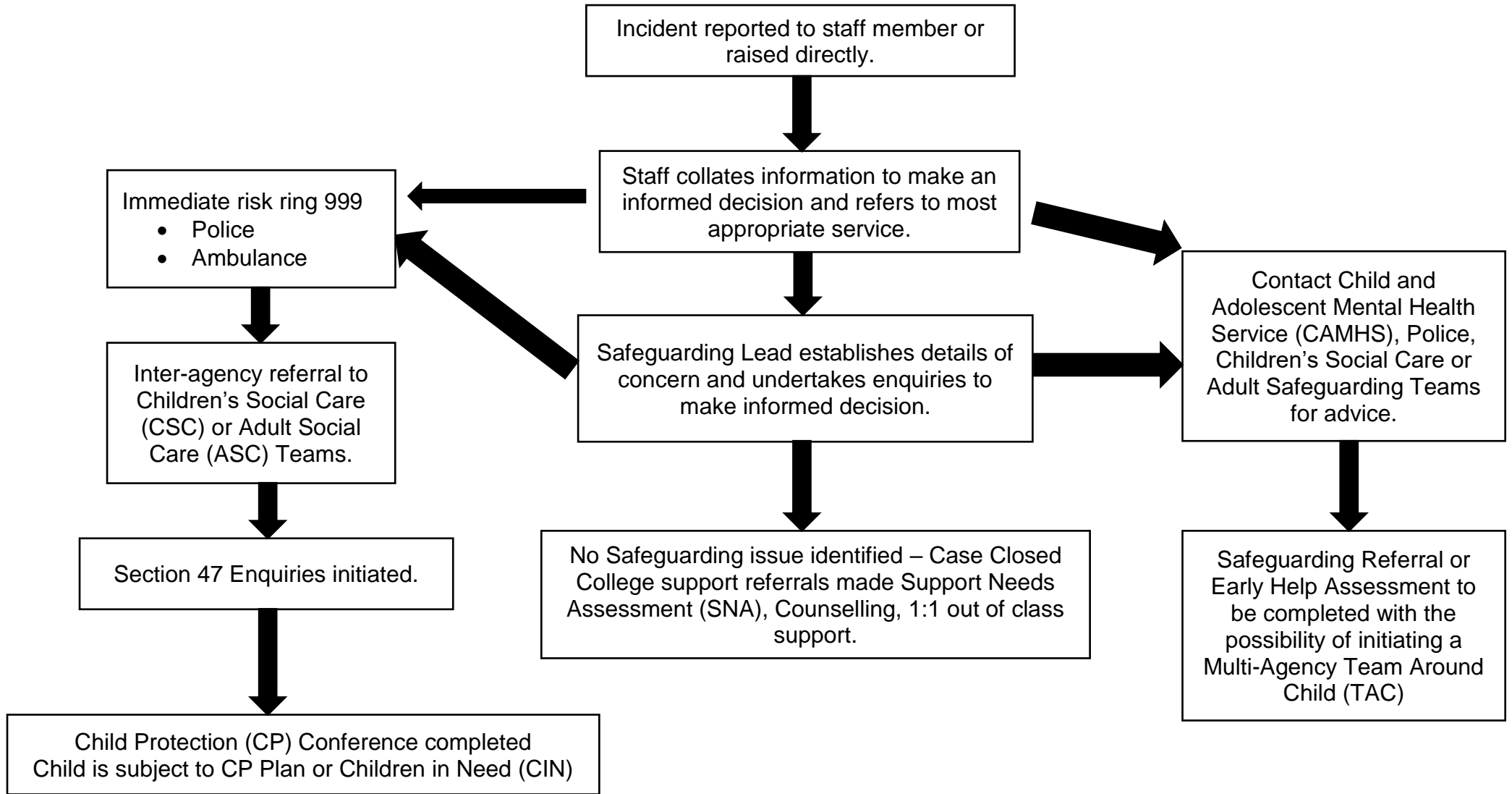
Any incident of bullying and harassment by a College Governor should be reported to the Designated Safeguarding Lead.

5 RECORDING

5.1 Recording all incidents of bullying and harassment can assist the College in reviewing its Equal Opportunities Policy and aims. These records will be organised as follows:

- All bullying and harassment records need to be sent to the Safeguarding Team at Lincoln College so that they can be entered onto the central record. This should be done so via the Single Point of Contact
- Reports should include details of the incident sufficient to indicate its character. Confidentiality will be maintained and only shared as agreed by involved parties.

APPENDIX 3 – WHAT HAPPENS TO SAFEGUARDING REFERRALS?



APPENDIX 4

REPORTING AND DEALING WITH ALLEGATIONS AGAINST MEMBERS OF STAFF

- 1 This procedure applies to all staff, whether teaching, administrative, management or support, as well as to volunteers. The generic term “staff” is used for ease of description and refers to all the staff groups.
- 2 The College recognises that an allegation of abuse made against a member of staff may be made for a variety of reasons and that the facts of the allegation may or may not be true.
- 3 If an allegation has been made against a teaching or other member of staff within the College that indicates that they may have:
 - Behaved in a way that has harmed a child, or may have harmed a child;
 - Possibly committed a criminal offence against or related to a child; or
 - Behaved towards a child or children in a way that indicates that he/she may pose a risk of harm to children
 - Behaved or may have behaved in a way that indicates they may not be suitable to work with children
- 4 The Designated Safeguarding Lead (or their nominee) should be informed of all allegations that come to the College’s attention so that they can consult Police and Children’s Social Care services as appropriate.
- 5 If the Designated Safeguarding Lead (or their nominee) does not feel that the case meets the threshold to be referred to Police/Social Care the case will be passed to the People Services Department to conduct their own investigation. The Designated Safeguarding Lead should receive regular updates.
- 6 The Designated Safeguarding Lead (or their nominee) should inform the Principal and CEO (or their nominee) and the Chair of Governors when an allegation is made against a member of staff with regard to safeguarding. They should also be kept up to date on the case is progressing and any outcomes.
- 7 The Designated Safeguarding Lead (or their nominee) will collect the details of referral and will call the Local Area Designated Officer (LADO) for advice on how to proceed as mentioned in 6.4.
- 8 If advised that the case needs investigating by the Police and/or Social Care, the College will support the investigation, but will not conduct an internal investigation. To do otherwise may prejudice the investigation.
- 9 If the LADO advises the College to conduct the investigation, the Designated Safeguarding Lead (or their nominee) should contact the Group Head of People Services who will appoint an independent Investigating Officer.
- 10 The Investigating Officer will keep a detailed account of investigation to include, interviews, telephone calls and any contact in relation to the case.
- 11 Subject to no objections from the Police or other investigating agency, the Designated Safeguarding Lead (or their nominee) shall:

- Inform the young person or child/children or parent/carer alleging that the investigation is taking place and what the likely process will involve
 - Ensure that the parents/carers of the child, young person or vulnerable adult making the allegation have been informed that the allegation has been made and what the likely process will involve
 - Inform the member of staff against whom the allegation was made that an investigation is taking place and what the likely process will involve.
- 12 The Designated Safeguarding Lead (or their nominee) shall keep a written record of the action taken in connection with the allegation. Detailed guidance is available in the DfE “Keeping Children Safe in Education” regarding people living with perpetrators.

Suspension of Staff

- 13 Suspension should not be automatic. In respect of staff (other than the Principal and CEO) suspension can only be carried out by the Principal and CEO or an alternative GLT member. If the allegation is against the Principal and CEO, suspension can only be carried out by the Chair of the Board of Governors (or in his/her absence, the Vice Chair).
- 14 Suspension can be considered at any stage of the investigation. It is a neutral, not a disciplinary act and shall be on full pay. Consideration should be given to alternatives: e.g. paid leave of absence; agreement to refrain from attending work; change of, or withdrawal from, specified duties.
- 15 Suspension should only occur for a good reason. For example:
- Where children or vulnerable adults are at risk
 - Where the allegations are potentially sufficiently serious to justify dismissal on the grounds of gross misconduct
 - Where necessary for the good and efficient conduct of the investigation.
- 16 If suspension is being considered, the member of staff should be encouraged to seek advice, for example from a Trade Union.
- 17 If the Principal and CEO, or Group Leadership Team (GLT) member, considers that suspension is necessary, the member of staff shall be informed that he/she is suspended from duty. Written confirmation of the suspension, with reasons, shall be despatched as soon as possible and ideally within three working days.
- 18 Where a member of staff is suspended, the Principal and CEO (or GLT member) should address the following issues:
- The Chair of the Board of Governors should be informed of the suspension although the name of the individual concerned will not be disclosed until an allegation is deemed to be proved
 - The Governing Body should receive a report that a member of staff has been suspended pending investigation; the detail given to the Governing Body should be minimal

- Where the Principal and CEO has been suspended, the Chair or Vice Chair of the Board of Governors will need to act to address the management of the College
- The parents/carers of the child or young person making the allegation should be informed of the suspension. They should be asked to treat the information as confidential. Consideration should be given to informing the child or young person making the allegation of the suspension
- Senior staff members that need to know the reason for the suspension should be informed
- Depending on the nature of the allegation, the Principal and CEO should consider, with the nominated Governor, whether a statement to the students of the College and/or parents/carers should be made, taking due regard of the need to avoid unwelcome publicity
- The Principal and CEO shall consider carefully and review the decisions as to who is informed of the suspension and investigation. The LSCP, or Nottinghamshire MASH and relevant external investigating authorities should be consulted
- The suspended member of staff should be given appropriate support during the period of suspension. He/she should also be provided with information on progress and developments of the case at regular intervals
- The suspension should remain under review in accordance with the College disciplinary procedures.

The Disciplinary Investigation

- 19 The disciplinary investigation should be conducted in accordance with the existing staff disciplinary procedures.
- 20 The member of staff should be informed of:
- The disciplinary charge against him/her
 - Their entitlement to be accompanied or represented by a Trade Union representative or workplace colleague

The following definitions should be used when determining the outcome of allegation investigation:

- Substantiated: there is sufficient evidence to prove the allegation
- Malicious: there is sufficient evidence to disprove the allegation and there has been deliberate act to deceive
- False: there is sufficient evidence to disprove the allegation
- Unsubstantiated: there is insufficient evidence to either prove or disprove the allegation. The term, therefore, does not imply guilt or innocence
- Unfounded: to reflect cases where there is no evidence or proper basis which supports the allegation being made.

- 21 Where the member of staff has been suspended and no disciplinary action is to be taken, the suspension should be lifted immediately and arrangements made for the member of staff to return to work. It may be appropriate to offer counselling.
- 22 If the accused person resigns, or ceases to provide their services, this should not prevent an allegation being followed up in accordance with “DfE Guidance Keeping Children Safe in Education 2023”.
- 23 The College has a legal duty to refer to DBS anyone who has harmed, or poses a risk of harm, to child or vulnerable adult where:
- The harm test is satisfied in respect of that individual
 - The individual has received a caution or conviction for a relevant offence, or if there is reason to believe that the individual has committed a listed relevant offence; and
 - The individual has been removed from working (paid or unpaid) in regulated activity, or would have been removed had they not left.
- 24 The child, children or vulnerable adult(s) making the allegation and/or their parents should be informed of the outcome of the investigation and the proceedings. This should occur prior to the return to College of the member of staff (if suspended).
- 25 The Principal and CEO (or designated person) should consider what information should be made available to the general population of the College.

Allegations without Foundation

- 26 False allegations may be indicative of problems of abuse elsewhere. A record should be kept and consideration given to a referral to the LSCP in order that other agencies may act upon the information.
- 27 In consultation with the designated senior member of staff and/or the designated Governor, the Principal and CEO (or designated person) shall:
- Inform the member of staff against whom the allegation is made verbally and in writing that no further disciplinary or Safeguarding action will be taken. Consideration should be given to offering counselling/support
 - Inform the parents/carers of the alleged victim that the allegation has been made and of the outcome
 - Where the allegation was made by a child other than the alleged victim, consider informing the parents/carers of that child
 - Prepare a report outlining the allegation and giving reasons for the conclusion that it had no foundation and confirming that the above action had been taken.

Records

- 28 It is important that documents relating to an investigation are retained in a secure place, together with a written record of the outcome and, if disciplinary action is taken, details retained on the member of staff’s personal and confidential file.

- 29 If a member of staff is dismissed or resigns before the disciplinary process is completed, he/she should be informed about the College's statutory duty to inform the Disclosure and Barring Service and complete the investigation.
- 30 Details of allegations that are found to be malicious will be removed from the member of staff's record.
- 31 All other records should be retained at least until the accused has reached normal pension age or for a period of 10 years from the date of the allegation if that is longer.

Monitoring Effectiveness

- 32 When an allegation has been made against a member of staff, the nominated Governor, together with the senior staff member with Lead Responsibility should, at the conclusion of the investigation, consider whether there are any matters arising from it such as:
- An improvement of the College's procedures and/or policies which should be drawn to the attention of the LSCP
 - Training needs
 - Mentoring
 - Risk Analysis
 - Good Practice
 - Procedural anomalies

APPENDIX 5

PROFESSIONAL CONDUCT GUIDELINES

Lincoln College expects all its employees to behave in a professional manner at all times. This also incorporates considering your personal actions when outside College and giving due consideration for any action that may bring the College into disrepute.

The following information is provided as guidance for what the College deems as acceptable and reasonable behaviour and aims to help staff safeguard students and reduce the risk of conduct which could be mistakenly interpreted as improper and lead to allegations being made against individuals.

Further guidance can also be found within the Personal Relationships between Students and Staff Policy.

This document is for both Lincoln College and its subsidiary company staff.

1 PRINCIPLES

- The welfare of young people and adults at risk is paramount
- Staff are responsible for their own actions
- Staff should be seen to work in a transparent way
- All staff should report any incident which may give rise to concern to their manager
- All staff and work placement providers should be aware of and follow the College's safeguarding procedure
- Staff who breach this code of conduct may be subject to the College's disciplinary procedures
- Serious breach of this code may result in a referral being made to an external or statutory agency such as the local authority Social Care Team or the Police.

2 WORKING WITH STUDENTS

All staff have a duty of care to keep students safe and are accountable for the way in which they use their authority and position of trust. This duty can be best exercised through the development of caring but professional relationships.

- 2.1 Staff should ensure that their relationships with students are appropriate to the age and gender of the student, taking care that their conduct does not give rise to comment or speculation. Attitudes, demeanour and language all require care and thought, particularly when dealing with both young and vulnerable students.
- 2.2 Comments by staff to young and vulnerable students, either individually or collectively, can be misconstrued. As a general principle, staff must not make unnecessary comments to and/or about students, which could be construed to have a sexual connotation.

- 2.3 It is also unacceptable for staff to introduce or to encourage debate amongst students in a class, training situation or elsewhere, which could be construed as having a sexual connotation that is unnecessary given the context of the session or the circumstances.
- 2.4 However, it is recognised that a topic raised by a student is best addressed rather than ignored. It is appropriate for staff to advise the student where they can access further advice and support.

Staff should:

- Treat all students with respect and dignity
- Always put the welfare of the student first
- Understand that the systematic use of insensitive, disparaging or sarcastic comments such as those that refer to a young person's body, intelligence, gender, sexual orientation or ethnicity in any way are unacceptable
- Not swear or use offensive or discriminatory language
- Never make sexual remarks to a student or discuss your own personal sexual relationships
- Avoid any communication which could be interpreted as sexually provocative
- End the discussion if it becomes uncomfortable or embarrassing
- Work in an open environment avoiding private or unobserved situations and encourage open communication
- Give enthusiastic and constructive feedback rather than negative criticism
- Always challenge inappropriate language from students or colleagues
- Never allow allegations made by a student to go unrecorded or not acted upon
- Only ever issue medication if it is in line with the College's Medicines policy.

3 ONE TO ONE SITUATIONS

Staff should be aware of the potential risks which may arise when working alone with a student.

It is recognised that there will be occasions when confidential interviews or meetings must take place:

- If possible leave the door open or use a room with a window in the door
- The use of "engaged" signs or lights are not advisable
- Where such conditions cannot apply, staff are advised to ensure that another adult knows that the meeting is taking place
- Never meet a student away from the College unless your line manager has given permission
- Avoid travelling in a car with one student and inform someone if the situation is unavoidable.

4 EDUCATIONAL VISITS AND COLLEGE ACTIVITIES

Staff should take extra care in less formal situations and remember they are still in a position of trust.

5 CONFIDENTIALITY

Staff should never share information about students in a casual manner or allow student access to information on staff computers or in staff rooms.

Staff should:

- Never give out their own personal details or a student's personal details to other students
- Log off or lock their computer whenever leaving it unattended
- Not allow students to use your computer unless you have logged off
- Staff should only email students from their work email address and not their personal email address

6 BEHAVIOUR

Staff should adopt high standards of personal conduct at all times.

- Staff clothing should reflect a professional appearance and should be suitable for the occupational area in which they are working
- Staff must wear their identity ID card when on College premises
- Staff should, where applicable wear relevant protective clothing to set a professional example to students
- Staff should dress in a manner which will avoid inappropriate comments
- Never act in a way that can be perceived as threatening
- Accessing or bringing images of pornography i.e. sexualised images without artistic merit on site is never acceptable, regardless of format
- Storing or disseminating such material is illegal and if proven will lead to the person being barred from working with young people
- When communicating with students electronically, staff should only use College mobiles, College email or official College internet sites
- Staff should never keep images of students on personal equipment.

7 SOCIAL CONTACT

Staff should never contact a student outside of the College for the purpose of friendship. This is particularly important when there is a possibility of a student becoming infatuated with a member of staff. It is recognised that there may be occasions when accidental or reasonable social contact may be unavoidable, e.g. meeting students at social venues open to the general public or in shops or at private parties. In such circumstances, staff should be mindful at all times of their professional relationship with students.

Staff should never lend money to students. Students who need money for food or travel should be directed to Student Services where appropriate arrangements will be made.

Outside the working hours of Student Services, a Safeguarding Lead within Deans Sport and Leisure can be contacted to deal with emergencies.

- Do not accept gifts that could be construed as bribes (end of term gifts is fine)
- Staff should not give/purchase any food items for students, as you may not be aware if the student has a food allergy
- Never give out personal contact details, mobile phone numbers or personal email or Facebook addresses
- Staff are advised not to have students tagged as friends on Facebook or any other form of social media
- Never accept friendship or access requests from students on any social networking sites
- Report any suspected infatuation
- Report any situation which you may feel compromises your professional standing
- Unavoidable social contact with a student must be reported to your line manager e.g. Where you are a member of the same gym or sports club.

8 MOBILE PHONES

Staff should only use College devices when contacting students i.e. not their personal mobile phone number.

9 SOCIAL MEDIA FOR STUDY

When setting up a Facebook (or other) page for study purposes staff must declare this to their line manager. Also, staff should liaise with the College's IT Manager and External Communications Manager to ensure that the page has the correct security and corporate logos in place.

10 SEXUAL CONTACT

It is a criminal offence for a person in a position of trust to engage in any sexual activity with a person aged under 18 with whom they have a relationship of trust, irrespective of the age of consent, even if the basis for their relationship is consensual. There is NO acceptable behaviour that has either explicit sexual connotations or innuendo. Any such behaviour will always be treated as extremely serious and must be reported immediately.

11 PHYSICAL CONTACT

The use of reasonable force.

In all circumstances you should try to diffuse a situation before it escalates: this may involve you politely and calmly asking a person to come with you where you can sit and talk through the issue or concern.

There are however circumstances when it is appropriate for staff in Colleges to use reasonable force to safeguard children and adults at risk. The term 'reasonable force' covers the broad range of actions used by staff that involve a degree of physical contact to control or restrain students. This can range from guiding a student to safety by the arm, to more extreme circumstances such as breaking up a fight or where a young person needs to be restrained to

prevent violence or injury. 'Reasonable' in these circumstances means 'using no more force than is needed'. The use of force may involve either passive physical contact, such as standing between pupils or blocking a pupil's path, or active physical contact such as leading a pupil by the arm out of the classroom.

Staff should remember that they should at no time put themselves at risk of physical danger and if they are concerned they should call the emergency contact number for assistance.

12 INCIDENTS THAT MUST BE REPORTED

- If a student is accidentally hurt
- If you are concerned that a relationship is developing that could represent an abuse of trust
- If you are concerned that a student is becoming attracted to you or a colleague
- If you are concerned that a colleague is becoming attracted to someone in his/her care
- If a student misunderstands or misinterprets something you have done
- If you have had to use reasonable physical restraint to prevent a student harming themselves, or another, or from causing significant damage to property
- If a student makes an allegation of abuse
- If you see any suspicious marks on a student
- If you notice sudden changes in behaviour.

13 WHISTLEBLOWING

Whistleblowing should be part of transparent work practices and is not intended to set up mistrust or suspicion among members of staff.

It can be difficult to accept that a colleague may deliberately harm a vulnerable person. It may also be that the behaviour that causes concern is bad practice rather than abuse.

The College will support and protect all staff and students who, in good faith and without malicious intent, report suspicions of abuse or concerns about colleagues and their actions.

APPENDIX 6

CHILDREN IN SPECIFIC CIRCUMSTANCES

The Lincoln College Group has a designated member of staff within the Safeguarding Team to monitor educational progress and achievement while supporting students who are:

- Looked After Children
- Unaccompanied Asylum Seekers
- Care Leavers
- Previously Care Experienced

As a collective group these students are identified as Care Experienced Students.

The Care Experienced Students offer means the College offers a point of contact for additional support specific to student's individual needs to provide the best opportunities for:

- a smooth transition to College
- support throughout their study programme at College
- continuation of support from Looked After to Care Leaver status
- support to transition into employment/Higher Education

The Designated Teacher will:

- complete the Personal Education Plans for the placing Local Authority
- provide reports for the Review of Current Care Arrangements.
- Work with the Virtual School Co-ordinators, Social Workers, Personal Assistants and Leaving Care Workers to achieve positive educational outcomes for the students.
- Provide a designated point of contact for students
- Support and liaise with tutors to understand the needs of the students.

Private Fostering Arrangements

- 1 When a child under 16 (or 18 if they have a disability) is cared for by someone who is not a close relative for 28 days or more.
- 2 A call must be made to the County Council either Nottinghamshire (0300 500 80 80) or Lincolnshire (01522 782111) as soon as this information is received to ensure that they are aware of the arrangements so a Social Worker from Children's Social Care can visit the child to ensure that the child is safe and the child is being properly cared for. Subsequent regular visits will follow to offer support and to make sure the child remains safe and well.

<https://www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/adoption-fostering/private-fostering>
<http://www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/care/fostering/private-fostering>

Care Experienced Students

1 Introduction

1.1 Lincoln College is committed to providing a quality education for all its students. The commitment to Care Experienced Students is guided by the principles and practice outlined in, Section 52 of the Children Act 2004, Promoting the Education of Looked After Children (Feb 2018), Keeping Children Safe in Education (September 2022) and Working Together to Safeguard Children (July 2018).

1.2 Looked After Children are young people who may be:

Accommodated (Section 20)

A voluntary arrangement is a joint voluntary arrangement between parents and the Local Authority. The arrangement can form part of a child protection plan negotiated with the family. In these circumstances, the parent(s) retain parental responsibility (PR).

Full Care Order

A child can be identified as a “Looked After Child” if a court has granted a Section 31 Full Care Order. An order may be issued if a child is believed to be suffering or likely to suffer significant harm. A care order generally gives parental responsibility to the local authority.

Remanded/detained

A child can be remanded or detained:

- During the period where an emergency protection order has been issued
- If removed from the home by police using their powers of protection
- By a court following criminal charges
- By a court directing a Children’s Services Department to accommodate a child already subject to a supervision order for criminal behaviour.

2 Supporting Care Experienced Students

2.1 Care experienced students may have:

- Low self-esteem
- Poor education standards due to absence from College
- Delayed social/emotional/cognitive development
- Been bullied or have bullied others
- Mental health issues
- Few friends or feels isolated
- Behavioural issues
- Poor attachment to others.

Care Experienced Students may experience some or all of the issues listed above. This makes them an extremely vulnerable group in terms of realising their educational potential and future life chances.

2.2 Lincoln College is committed to ensuring that Care Experienced Students are fully supported by:

- A Designated member of Staff (Safeguarding Co-ordinator or Designated Teacher for Care Experienced Students), LSA's, Counsellors, Guidance Advisers, Assessment and Support Co-ordinators, Personal Tutors and Financial Support
- Establishing and monitoring robust support contracts recorded on the eILP
- Ensuring that all staff working with Care Experienced Students have a clear understanding of issues that affect them
- Liaising with the Virtual School – Post-16 Education Co-ordinator for Children's Services by organising and co-ordinating termly progression Personal Education Plan meetings
- Liaising and contributing to the review of Care Arrangements process.

3 Confidentiality

Information about Care Experienced Students will be shared with College staff on a "need to know basis".

4 Roles and Responsibilities

4.1 Head of Student Services

The Head of Student Services will:

- Liaise with the nominated member of the Governing Body to provide accurate information regarding Care Experienced Students in the College and to confirm that the support outlined above is in place and working effectively
- Reports forwarded to the nominated member of the governing body will not include the names of individual children for child protection and confidentiality reasons
- Review the effective implementation of this policy on an annual basis or immediately in the light of new guidance and/or legislation being introduced.

4.2 Designated Member of Staff

The Designated Member of Staff will:

- Be an advocate for Care experienced Students
- Monitor attendance of the Care Experienced Students and address any absences with the academic leads
- Ensure that processes are in place to identify Care Experienced Students at the earliest opportunity
- Where there is a learning difficulty or disability, ensure that an assessment of support need and appropriate support is in place

on enrolment with support from the Assessment and Support Team

- Ensure that each Care Experienced Student has an identified member of staff that they can talk to – this will be the Personal Tutor and the Designated Teacher for Care Experienced Students
- Co-ordinate support for the child in the College and liaise with other professionals and carers
- Ensure staff receive relevant information and training and act as an advisor to staff and governors
- Ensure confidentiality for individual children
- Ensure the College is represented at Care Arrangements planning/review meetings
- Ensure that the child and carer(s) receive notification of relevant College meetings, e.g. parents' evenings
- Ensure efficient transfer of information between individuals, relevant agencies and to other colleges as appropriate
- Seek meetings with relevant parties where the child/young person is experiencing difficulties, particularly if there is the danger of disciplinary action.

4.3 The Designated Co-ordinator) with Responsibility for Care Experienced Students

The Designated Co-ordinator with responsibility for Care Experienced Students will:

- Provide support to Personal Tutors, giving advice and guidance on procedures
- Act as the key contact with the Virtual School – Post-16 Education Co-ordinator for Children's Services on behalf of Personal Tutors
- Ensure that ePEPs are completed on a termly basis.

4.4 Personal Tutor

The Personal Tutor will:

- Ensure a supported induction the child/young person and carer(s), and note specific requirements, including care status
- Ensure that the eLP, and other records are up to date
- Liaise with the College Designated Teacher (Safeguarding Co-ordinator) and attend an ePEP once per term or provide a report
- Ensure that the Care Experienced Student is informed about and encouraged to attend extra-curricular activities, enrichment and out of hours learning
- Seek meetings with the Designated Teacher (Safeguarding Co-ordinator) where the child/young person is experiencing difficulties, particularly if there is the danger of disciplinary action
- As part of CPD, Tutor's should research or attend workshops setting out the additional needs of a Care Experienced Student.

APPENDIX 7

IDENTIFICATION ID CARD/LANYARD

1 PURPOSE

The purpose of the Identification card/Lanyard Policy is:

- To provide standards and requirements for the display of identification
- To provide a consistent method of identification
- To provide additional means of establishing a safe community for staff, visitors and students.

2 AIM

The Policy aims to ensure effective identification and safeguarding measures are in place.

This Policy should be read in conjunction with the following Policies:

- Learner Conduct Policy
- Staff Disciplinary Procedures
- Admissions Policy

3 PROCEDURES/RESPONSIBILITIES

3.1 Managers

All Managers are required to sign a policy which confirms they have read and understood the content of the policy and will ensure that all staff/volunteers will enforce and adhere to the policy.

3.2 Staff

- All staff will be issued a photographic ID card and College lanyard by the Digital Engagement Team upon employment
- While in the workshops ID cards may be worn using a clip-on accessory for those staff who would encounter health and safety issues while using a lanyard
- ID cards must be worn using a College breakaway lanyard designated by a blue colour to identify individuals as staff members. If a staff member refuses to wear their lanyard, or has to be repeatedly told to wear it, disciplinary action should be taken, in the absence of exceptional circumstances
- The ID card and College lanyard must be visible at all times and not obstructed by clothing
- All staff are responsible for challenging persons not displaying an ID card with a College lanyard
- If a staff member finds a student displaying an out of date ID card, the staff member is responsible for retaining the ID card
- Staff must return their identification ID cards and College lanyards to People Services upon termination of employment
- If staff are found not wearing their ID card and College lanyard, this will be referred to their line manager to issue an informal oral warning

where appropriate. Further incidents of non-compliance will be addressed via the staff disciplinary procedures (Formal)

- Staff who have lost their ID card and College lanyard must go to the Digital Engagement Team to be issued with a replacement ID card and lanyard. A replacement ID card and College lanyard will be issued free of charge but any issued subsequently will incur a fee of £5
- Staff who have not lost their ID card and College lanyard but have forgotten to bring it to work must go to the Digital Engagement Team to be issued with a temporary ID card and College lanyard.

3.3 Applicants

All potential students and their parent/guardian will be monitored whilst on campus. During their visit they will be monitored via one of the following procedures:

- Experience day students will be issued with a temporary badge by the Schools Liaison Co-ordinator (or their nominee)
- Applicants will be signed in by the staff member supervising and issued with a temporary badge for identification. Parents/guardians will be issued with an accompanying adult badge
- Open evening visitors will all receive a temporary badge on arrival.

3.4 Students

- All students will be issued with a photographic ID card and a breakaway College lanyard upon enrolment
- All students should wear their lanyard at all times while on College property (this includes social areas and while moving between buildings)
- Lanyards are to be worn around the neck and not tied to bags/arms or hanging out of pockets. All staff have a responsibility to challenge any student or staff member not wearing a lanyard
- If a student refuses to wear their lanyard, they should be asked to leave College property until such time that they are wearing a lanyard. If they continue to refuse or have to be repeatedly told to wear it, disciplinary action should be taken, in the absence of exceptional circumstances
- In exceptional cases, related to Special Education Needs or Disability (SEND), there may be a reason why a staff/student member cannot wear a lanyard around their neck. In this instance a formal request must be made to the Head of Student Services outlining the reasons why and providing any supporting evidence. The supporting evidence should give specific details as to why an individual is unable to wear a lanyard around their neck. An example of supporting evidence would be a Doctor's letter or a Health and Safety Officer. If the evidence supports the request the individual will be issued with an exemption letter by the Head of Student Services that sets out that they are exempt from wearing a lanyard around the neck. It should also detail the alternative method of identification agreed with the individual which should be the wearing of identification on a clip that is clearly visible. A record of this decision should be recorded onto an individual's learner record or staff record as appropriate

- In workshops/high risk environments, students will be asked to remove their lanyard for certain tasks by their tutor. As an alternative, a clip will be provided so that identification is still displayed in these sessions
- Students who have lost their ID card and/or College lanyard must go to the Digital Engagement Team to be issued with a replacement. You can be issued with one replacement free of charge but any issued after this will incur a £5 fee
- Students who have not lost their ID card and College lanyard but have forgotten to bring it must report to the Digital Engagement Team (or report to reception in Newark) to be issued with temporary identification. Students who repeatedly forget their lanyard should be subject to a disciplinary sanction
- When a student leaves or withdraws from a course, they should be requested to hand in their ID card, holder and lanyard on the last day of attendance to a member of staff. Returned ID cards and College lanyards should be returned to the Digital Engagement Team
- If a student is asked to leave by the College, they should be requested to hand in their ID card and College lanyard of the last day of attendance to a member of staff. Returned ID cards and College lanyards should then be returned to the Digital Engagement Team.

3.5 **Governors**

Governors will be issued with a Governor identification ID card and Governor lanyard.

3.6 **Contractors**

- All Contractors must report to the Facilities department to be issued a photographic identification ID card
- All contractors must wear their ID cards on the provided College lanyard, around the neck at all times while on campus
- ID cards maybe worn using a clip provided by the College for those personnel who would encounter health and safety issues with the use of a lanyard
- ID cards shall be worn using a breakaway College lanyard designated by the colour red to identify them as a campus contractor
- ID cards and College lanyards must be returned to the Facilities department upon completion of work each day
- Contractors who have lost their ID card and College lanyard must report to the Facilities Department to be issued with a replacement ID card and College lanyard.

3.7 **Visitors**

- Visitors must report to the Main Reception to be issued with a picture ID card
- When visitors are issued with their ID card they must state what department or person they are on campus to visit
- ID cards shall be worn using a breakaway College lanyard designated by the colour purple to identify them as a visitor. Visitors must return their ID card and College lanyard to the Main Reception at the end of their visit

- Visitors who have lost their ID card and College lanyard must report to the Main Reception to be issued with a replacement ID card and College lanyard.

3.8 Special Events

Visitors who are on campus as part of an authorised special event must sign in at designated check in points around the campus where they will receive a College ID.

3.9 Agency Workers, Volunteers/ Work placement

- Agency Workers, Volunteers and those on a work placement are to be issued a photographic ID card and temporary lanyard by the Digital Engagement Team upon employment
- While in the workshops ID cards may be worn using a clip-on accessory for those staff who would encounter health and safety issues while using a lanyard
- ID cards must be worn using a temporary breakaway lanyard to identify individuals as an external agency worker, volunteer or an individual on a work placement. If an individual refuse to wear their lanyard, or has to be repeatedly told to wear it, action should be taken in the absence of exceptional circumstances, which could include the termination of the individuals booking or placement
- The ID card and temporary lanyard must be visible at all times and not obstructed by clothing
- All agency workers are responsible for challenging persons not displaying an ID card with a College lanyard
- External Agency Workers and individuals on volunteer/work placements who find a student displaying an out of date ID card, should cease and retain this immediately
- Identification ID cards and temporary lanyards should be returned to People Services upon termination of an individual's booking, assignment or placement
- External Agency Workers and those on volunteer or work placement who have lost their ID card and temporary lanyard must go to the Digital Engagement Team to be issued with a replacement ID card and lanyard. A replacement ID card and temporary lanyard will be issued free of charge but any issued subsequently will incur a fee of £5.

4 OTHER

Customers for Sessions Restaurant, Deans Sport and Leisure or the Salon will not receive an identification ID card and lanyard but must sign in at the individual receptions.

N.B From reviewing this policy, some recommendations/amendments will be made to the safer recruitment policy in order to reflect the above and updates to KCSIE, however this is to be reviewed outside of the above.

APPENDIX 8

E-SAFETY

1 INTRODUCTION

Lincoln College recognises the benefits and opportunities which new technologies offer to teaching and learning. We encourage the use of technology in order to enhance skills and promote achievement. However, the accessible and global nature of the internet and variety of technologies available mean that we are also aware of potential risks and challenges associated with such use. Our approach is to implement safeguards within the College and to support staff and learners to identify and manage risks independently.

2 SCOPE

This applies to all users who have access to the College IT systems, both on the premises and remotely. Any user of College IT systems must adhere to the Acceptable Use Policy available on the intranet. The E-Safety Appendix applies to all use of the internet and electronic communication devices such as email, mobile phones, games consoles and social networking sites. It also includes the use of personal devices which are operated on the College campus. Other policies and procedures will also govern the use of such devices, such as the Code of Conduct.

3 SECURITY

The College will do all that it can to make sure the College network is safe and secure. Every effort will be made to keep security software up to date. Appropriate security measures will include the use of enhanced filtering and protection of firewalls, servers, routers, work stations etc. to prevent accidental or malicious access of College systems and information.

Digital communications, including email and internet postings, over the College network, will be monitored. Regular checks will also be carried out to ensure that staff and/or students trying to access websites portraying extreme violence or associated with extremist groups are reported appropriately should they raise a safeguarding concern. Other policies which refer to this topic include the Internet, E-Mail and Computer Acceptable Use Policy and the Security and Disaster Recovery Policy.

4 BEHAVIOUR

Lincoln College will ensure that all users of technologies adhere to the standard of behaviour as set out in the Acceptable Use Policy. The College will not tolerate any abuse of IT systems as also outlined in the Acceptable Use Policy. Whether offline or online, communications by staff and students should be courteous and respectful at all times. Any reported incident of bullying or harassment or other unacceptable conduct will be treated seriously and in line with the Student and Staff Disciplinary Code of Conduct. Where conduct is found to be in breach of College policies and procedures and/or Code of

Conduct, the College will deal with the matter internally. Where conduct is considered illegal, the College will report the matter to the police.

Online behaviour outside College

All online communication between students both inside and outside College hours must be appropriate and respectful. Any instances of threatening, abusive or harassing behaviour may potentially be dealt with through the disciplinary procedure even if undertaken outside College. Students must be aware that any abusive or harassing behaviour could be a Police matter.

5 USE OF IMAGES AND VIDEO

The use of images, or photographs, is popular in teaching and learning and should be encouraged where there is no breach of the rights of another person (See also the Acceptable Use Policy). This will include images downloaded from the internet and images belonging to staff or students. All students and staff should be aware of the risks in downloading these images as well as posting them online and sharing them with others. There are particular risks where personal images and information are posted onto social networking sites, for example. Consent forms must also be completed by students when photographs and videos are taken for academic purposes.

Students should not use personal mobile devices to take photos, videos or voice recordings of other students without their express permission. Students should not use personal mobile devices to take photos, videos or voice recordings of staff members, or during lessons, at any time.

Any images or recordings of students which are then made available to others e.g. via social networking sites, must be used appropriately and respectfully, and with the permission of the individual concerned. Any online behaviour that could be perceived as defamatory, harassing or malicious with intent may potentially be dealt with through the conduct procedure. Students must be aware that any misuse of personal images could be a police matter.

6 YOUTH PRODUCED SEXUAL IMAGES (SEXTING)

Youth Produced Sexual Images, or “Sexting”, refers to electronic communications with content that includes both pictures and text messages sent using mobile telephone and other electronic media. “Sexting” within this document applies to an image that has been self-generated and shared by a person under the age of eighteen. This type of behaviour can be seen as “risk taking” and a consequence of a young person experimenting or challenging boundaries. The inherent dangers with such activity can be significant and long lasting.

The Protection of Children Act 1978 amended by the Sexual Offences Act 2003 makes it clear that the making, possessing and distribution of “indecent” images of a child is an offence. A child is defined as anyone under the age of eighteen years. Although the legislation identifies “Sexting” as a criminal offence the Association of Chief Police Officers (ACPO) provide guidance in situations where an incident could be seen to be “Experimental”.

“Experimental” is described as being a self-generated image sent between two individuals with no prospect of the image being further shared and with no adult involvement.

“Aggravated” incidents would be defined as those where there is:

- coercion, blackmail, threats or deception in obtaining an image
- criminal sexual abuse
- sexual exploitation
- sharing of images without consent

The involvement of an adult, 18 or over, would instantly make any incident “Aggravated”.

ACPO advise that those incidents deemed to be “Experimental” would not require a referral to Police but instead could be dealt with at a local level and in partnership with parents, carers and/or other agencies in a supportive and advising role. This is to negate the disproportionate response of Police involvement and possible criminal procedures.

Any other incidents falling outside of this remit should be referred to Police and/or Social Care Services.

Staff have a statutory power to seize and examine any electronic device held by a student on College premises that is suspected of storing such images. The guidance in relation to search and seizure of electronic devices are contained in the Search, Screening and Confiscation Policy.

In summary, staff can access the files and data of an electronic device where there are concerns that it contains material that may cause harm. Self-generated material would fall into this category.

If an incident occurs where a self-generated image is discovered then contact should be made with the Safeguarding Leads at Lincoln. The electronic device should be retained pending the matter being investigated and no material should be deleted.

7 PERSONAL INFORMATION

Lincoln College collects and stores the personal information of students and staff regularly e.g. names, dates of birth, email addresses, assessment materials and so on. The College will keep that information safe and secure and will not pass it onto anyone else without the express permission of the student or parent/carer. Staff must keep learners’ personal information safe and secure at all times. Every user of IT is required to log off on completion of any activity, or where they are physically absent from a device. Where the personal data is no longer required, it must be securely deleted in line with the Data Protection Policy.

Where children or vulnerable adults leave College the Designated Safeguarding Lead (or their nominee) should ensure that the safeguarding files are transferred to the new College as soon as possible, ensuring secure transit and confirmation of receipt should be obtained. Receiving Colleges should

ensure key staff such as the Safeguarding Leads and SENCOs are aware as required.

8 EDUCATION AND TRAINING

With the current unlimited nature of internet access, it is impossible for the College to eliminate all risks for staff and students. It is our view therefore, that the College should support staff and students through training and education. This will provide them with the skills to be able to identify risks independently and manage them effectively.

E-safety training for staff is included in the mandatory Safeguarding training, which is undertaken by all staff on a three-year rolling programme. Training resources are available for staff and students to access on the intranet and e-safety tutorials are completed for 16-18-year-old full time students. Students should also know what to do and who to talk to where they have concerns about inappropriate content, either where that material is directed to them, or where it is discovered as part of a random search.

9 INCIDENTS AND RESPONSE

Where an e-safety incident is reported to the College this matter will be dealt with very seriously. The College will act immediately to prevent, as far as reasonably possible, any harm or further harm occurring.

If the incident is relating to a student or a student has a concern with regard to a member of staff it should be referred to the College Safeguarding leads.

Where a member of staff wishes to identify a concern regarding a fellow member of staff, they must contact either the Head of Student Services or the Chief People Officer or their nominees.

Following any incident, the College will review what has happened and decide on the most appropriate course of action. Sanctions may be put in place, external agencies may be involved or the matter may be resolved internally depending on the seriousness of the incident. This is in line with the College Acceptable Use Policy. Serious incidents will be dealt with by senior management, in consultation with appropriate external agencies.

10 ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

There are clear lines of responsibility for e-safety within the College. The first point of contact regarding concerns over e-safety should be the Safeguarding Team unless it is relating to a member of staff when it should then be reported directly to either the Chief People Officer or the Head of Student Services or their nominee.

All staff are responsible for ensuring the safety of students and should report any concerns immediately to the aforementioned. When informed about an e-safety incident, staff members must take particular care not to guarantee any measure of confidentiality towards either the individual reporting it, or to those involved.

Where any report of an e-safety incident is made, all parties should know what procedure is triggered and how this will be followed up. Where appropriate the safeguarding leads may be asked to intervene with appropriate additional support from external agencies.

10.1 **Students**

- Students are responsible for using the College IT systems and personal mobile devices in accordance with the College Acceptable Use Policy
- Students are responsible for attending e-safety lessons as part of the curriculum
- Students are expected to seek help (either from tutors or Student Services) where they are worried or concerned, or where they believe an e-safety incident has taken place involving them or another member of the College community
- Students must act safely and responsibly at all times when using the internet and/or mobile technologies.

10.2 **Staff**

- All staff are responsible for using the College IT systems and personal mobile devices in accordance with the College Acceptable Use Policy Mobile
- Staff are responsible for attending staff training on e-safety as appropriate and for displaying a model example to students at all times
- Staff must ensure that all digital communications with students must be professional in tone and content at all times
- Any online communication with students is restricted and must only be done through the College network
- Any incident that is reported to or discovered by a staff member must be reported to the Safeguarding Team without delay
- All teaching staff are required to read through and adhere to the incident reporting procedure detailed above.

APPENDIX 9

OPERATIONAL AND STRATEGIC SAFEGUARDING GROUPS

The College is committed to ensuring that all staff that have an increased level of responsibility for safeguarding are appropriately trained and have access to up-to-date information and support.

- 1.1 Nominated staff will have an increased level of responsibility for safeguarding they are namely:
 - The designated member of The Board of Corporation
 - The Strategic Safeguarding Leads for the College
 - The College Management Team including staff who carry out Duty Manager responsibilities.
 - The Safeguarding Team which includes nominated cross College staff
- 1.2 The College Strategic Safeguarding Leads are Level 3 Safeguarding trained.
- 1.3 All Duty Managers are Safeguarding trained to ensure that there is always an appropriately trained member of staff available while students are on site.
- 1.4 A cross section of staff will be invited to Operational Safeguarding Meetings.
 - 1.4.1 The group will establish an agreed Terms of Reference.
 - 1.4.2 The Operational Safeguarding Group will be chaired by the Safeguarding Team Leader.
 - 1.4.3 The group will meet once every half term.
 - 1.4.4 The group will share updates with regards to safeguarding issues. They will also discuss complex cases to reinforce knowledge and practices and provide a supportive, confidential environment to discuss concerns.
 - 1.4.5 The Safeguarding Team Leader will pass on any relevant information between the Strategic Safeguarding meeting and the Operational Safeguarding Team meeting.

STRATEGIC SAFEGUARDING PANEL

The Colleges Strategic Safeguarding Panel is made up of Senior Managers at the College and representation from external agencies. External membership will be encouraged from Lincolnshire Police, Youth Offending Service and other relevant agencies.

The purpose of the Panel is to make informed, impartial judgments as to the suitability of high-risk applicants or students. This can be based on offending history, incidents of serious misconduct, poor mental health or any other circumstances that may present a high level of risk to staff, students, visitors or the reputation of Lincoln College.

- 1.1 The Panel has agreed Terms of Reference for the operating of the group.

- 1.2 The Panel will meet at least once a term and will be chaired by the Safeguarding Lead and Equality and Diversity Officer.
- 1.3 All students and applicants that are put forward to the Panel hearing will be informed of the processes involved and invited to put forward a statement to support their case. Any professionals working with the student and/or applicant will also be contacted for supporting statements and may also be invited to attend the panel hearing.
- 1.4 The Panel will hear the case for the student and/or applicant and each member will vote on an outcome along with stating their reasons why they have chosen this.
- 1.5 The student and/or applicant will be written to with the decision of the Panel, informing them of the 10 days appeal notice period.
- 1.6 If the student and/or applicant wishes to appeal the decision of the Strategic Safeguarding Panel then appeals must be made, in writing, to the College Appeals Panel and be received within ten working days of receipt of the written outcome of the Strategic Safeguarding Panel being received. All appeals must follow the procedure noted in the College Appeals Panel Policy and Procedure (Policy CQ/PO/26) which can be obtained by contacting quality@lincolncollege.ac.uk

A flow chart for the Panel process can be seen below:



APPENDIX 10

USEFUL LINKS FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, TELEPHONE NUMBERS AND WEBSITES:

KEEPING CHILDREN SAFE IN EDUCATION

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/keeping-children-safe-in-education--2>

WHAT TO DO IF YOU ARE WORRIED YOUR CHILD IS BEING ABUSED

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/what-to-do-if-youre-worried-a-child-is-being-abused--2>

ABUSE

DOMESTIC ABUSE

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/domestic-abuse-how-to-get-help>

CHILD ABUSE LINKED TO FAITH OR BELIEF

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/national-action-plan-to-tackle-child-abuse-linked-to-faith-or-belief>

DISRESPECT NOBODY

<http://www.disrespectnobody.co.uk/relationship-abuse/what-is-relationship-abuse/>

BULLYING

TACKLING BULLYING

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/623895/preventing_and_tackling_bullying_advice.pdf

DRUGS

TALKTOFRANK

<https://www.talktofrank.com/>

HOMELESSNESS

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/homelessness-code-of-guidance-for-local-authorities>

PREVENT

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/prevent-duty-guidance>

VIOLENCE

GANGS AND YOUTH VIOLENCE

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/advice-to-schools-and-colleges-on-gangs-and-youth-violence>

SEXUAL VIOLENCE BETWEEN CHILDREN IN SCHOOLS AND COLLEGES

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/sexual-violence-and-sexual-harassment-between-children-in-schools-and-colleges>

ONLINE SAFETY

THINKUKNOW is the National Crime Agency/CEOPs education programme with age specific resources

<https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/>

SAFER INTERNET developed guidance and resources that can help with the teaching of the online safety component of the Computing Curriculum.

<https://www.saferinternet.org.uk/>

CONTACT NUMBERS

Lincolnshire

Lincolnshire Safeguarding Children's Partnership

www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/safeguarding/lscp

Lincolnshire Children Services Customer Service Centre (CSC) 01522 782111.

Outside of office hours you can contact the Emergency Duty Team (EDT) on 01522 782333.

Lincolnshire Adults Safeguarding Board - www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/lsab

Lincolnshire Adults Social Care - 01522 782155

Outside office hours contact the Emergency Duty Team on **01522 782333**.

Lincolnshire Police Non – emergency - 101 then request Lincolnshire.

Adults Mental Health Crisis Team– 01522 573648 (24 hrs)

Crisis resolution and home treatment 0303 1234000

CAMHS PALS (Professional Advice Line) - 01522 309120 (9am-4.45pm)

Lincolnshire Here4You Line 01522 309120 (Mon-Fri 9.30-16.30)

Lincolnshire Mental Health helpline 0800 0014331 (24/7)

Nottinghamshire

Nottinghamshire Safeguarding Children Partnership

<https://www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/nscp>

Nottinghamshire Safeguarding Adult Board – www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/nsab

Nottinghamshire Multi – Agency Safeguarding Hub – 0300 500 80 90

Email - mash.safeguarding@nottscc.gov.uk

Nottinghamshire CAMHS Crisis –01158440560

Nottinghamshire Police – Non emergency 101 then request Nottinghamshire.

Samaritans – 116 123

NSPCC – worried about a child 0808 800 5000

Email - help@nspcc.org.uk

APPENDIX 11

VIDEO CONFERENCE PROTOCOLS

Do:

- All 1:1 online activity with under 18s or vulnerable adults must be agreed with parents / carers prior to the call taking place. Parents and carers should be present in the home at the time.
- Small group online activity can sometimes result in other members not being present and/or problems with technology resulting in only one student and one teacher. Teachers should use their professional judgement to determine if the call should continue if the student is under 18 or vulnerable adult and prior agreement has not been sought.
- Academic schools and teachers should agree protocols with parents, carers and student about the expectations of the call and what is appropriate – to include location, dress etc.
- **If at any time you feel uncomfortable with something done or said during a 1:1 call, you should end the call as soon as possible and report any concerns to your line manager and / or safeguarding officer.**
- Ensure your safeguarding training is up to date, if it is not do not conduct a 1:1 video call.
- Test your audio and video before a scheduled call.
- Recording live classes so that the video can be reviewed may be beneficial for other students to access if they have missed the session or had technical issues. When recording session please ensure that this is mentioned at the start of the session and the purpose for recording it.
- Be punctual and courteous. Introduce yourself and take note of other attendees' names so you can address them by name. Turn off call tone on your phone. Treat this just like you would a face to face meeting with a student, colleague or other adult.
- Conduct yourself in a professional manner throughout the call - you remain an employee of the college throughout the call.
- Conduct video calls to learners or colleagues from a desk or other appropriate location.
- Remind students that all audio/video may be recorded, to safeguard both parties and this wouldn't routinely be shared.
- Look at your screen, pay attention to others and when speaking make sure to look at your camera.
- Use the 'blur background option' to hide any background if needed.
- Mute your microphone when not needing to talk to avoid background noise.
- Keep sessions to a reasonable length to avoid interfering with family activity.
- Consider posting your comments/questions on completion of the on-line conversation, in the *Team Chat* window.

Don't:

- Conduct a video call if it would be inappropriate to meet face-to-face.
- Multi-task; your audience will be aware.
- Shout; the other participants will tell you if they cannot hear.
- Click your pen, tap on your desk or anything else annoying or distracting.
- Eat or drink, other than water / tea / coffee.
- Position yourself with other people or pets in view; what's around and behind you can be seen.
- Leave multiple applications open during the call as it may affect the quality.
- Wear stripes or heavy patterns creating pixilation of images.

Useful further guidance:

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/safeguarding-and-remote-education-during-coronavirus-covid-19>

<https://www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/safeguarding/lscp/10?documentId=258&categoryId=20076>

<https://www.tes.com/news/coronavirus-10-safeguarding-rules-teachers-home>

<https://learning.nspcc.org.uk/news/2020/march/undertaking-remote-teaching-safely/>

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/internet-connected-devices/>

<https://www.ncsc.gov.uk/guidance/video-conferencing-services-security-guidance-organisations>

Appendix 12 – Prevent referrals

