



**The Park
Academies
Trust**

Safeguarding and Child Protection Statement

November 2023

Version Control

Reviewer / owner (role)	Executive lead (role)	Approving body	Meeting date when the policy was approved
Director of Inclusion	CEO and Executive Board	Trust Board	4 December 2023

This statement is reviewed annually. The next review is due by December 2024.

Introduction

The Trust intends and expects that all decisions, policies and procedures will be underpinned at all times by its vision and values.

Our aim:

To create centres of educational excellence that inspire all pupils to turn their potential into performance.

To achieve this our schools will:

- Provide a broad and balanced curriculum that allows pupils to develop their talents and ambitions.
- Deliver the highest quality learning opportunities facilitated by excellent teachers.
- Inspire our pupils to become confident, motivated and respectful individuals ready to make a positive contribution to society.

The Trust will support our schools by:

- Maximising the resources and expertise available to individual schools.
- Providing a platform for the sharing of excellent practice.
- Challenging and developing staff to turn their potential into performance.

TPAT Safeguarding Statement

The Safeguarding Trustee is Wayne Orr

The Park Academies Trust (TPAT) is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children within its family of schools. It expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment.

TPAT and its schools recognise their responsibility to safeguard the welfare of all their children by protecting them from emotional, sexual or physical harm and from neglect or bullying. They acknowledge that child abuse can be a very emotive and difficult subject. It is important to understand the feelings involved but not to allow them to interfere with judgement about the action to be taken.

TPAT and its schools believe that the child's welfare is always of paramount concern, and that all children have a right to be protected from abuse regardless of their age, gender, disability, culture, language, racial origin, religious belief or sexual identity. All suspicions and allegations of abuse will be taken seriously and responded to swiftly and appropriately in accordance with the school's Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy. Each school is committed to working alongside parents and other professionals to ensure effective support is put into place for every child.

Every adult is expected to play their part in safeguarding our children. Each school supports this through safeguarding and child protection awareness training. All staff in all of our schools know the procedures that should be followed should they have any concerns about a child. All staff know where to go should they require some information, help and guidance.

TPAT supports each school in the following ways:

- Fully adopting the Keeping Children Safe in Education Guidance and section 3 of the Early Years Framework;
- Undertaking safeguarding external/internal reviews and Local Authority audits on an annual basis;
- Ensuring each school adheres to their Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy and other safeguarding policies and procedures that detail school specific advice and designated safeguarding lead details;
- Ensuring each school has a LAB member with special responsibility for safeguarding;
- Having a Trustee with special responsibility for safeguarding, who liaises with TPAT's Head of Governance and the Safeguarding LAB members;
- All staff receive regular training on child protection procedures, including Prevent and Keeping Children Safe in Education guidance.

Reporting Concerns about a Child

If you are concerned about the welfare of a child at any of our schools contact the relevant Designated Safeguarding Officer for that school. Details can be found on each school website.

Reporting Concerns about an Adult Working or Volunteering in Our Schools

If you are concerned about an adult working or volunteering in any of our schools contact the Headteacher. If the concern is about the Headteacher then please follow individual school procedures.

Safer Recruitment

All applicants for employment at TPAT and its schools will be fully vetted in accordance with DfE Guidelines Safeguarding Children: Safer Recruitment and Selection in Education Settings.