



Inspiring Learning

Safeguarding Policy

Reviewed by Klaudia Ratajczak August 2021
Next Review due in August 2022



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Safeguarding Policy

Policy Objectives

Inspiring Learning is fully committed to safeguarding and protecting the welfare of all children, young people and adults at risk by taking all reasonable steps to protect them from threats risks and vulnerabilities. All team members will at all times show respect and understanding for the rights, safety and welfare of all children, young people and adults at risk with whom the organisation comes into contact, and conduct themselves in a way that reflects our principles.

We operate from centres in the UK and France. We host school, youth, uniform and faith groups from within the UK and from overseas. We provide adventurous activity, curriculum based learning and English language tuition on a residential or day-programme basis. This list is not exhaustive.

All Inspiring Learning team members have a duty to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and young people and adults at risk. This also applies to third party delivery agents who we may at times employ. All of these groups should be familiar with our policies and procedures, are expected to comply with them and have a duty to report any safeguarding,

Child and adult protection concerns or welfare concerns to the Designated Safeguarding Lead at the centre they are staying at.

In line with our company values we will treat children and adults at risk with respect and celebrate their achievements.

Policy Objectives

In support of this policy we will:

- ▶ Undertake DBS checks and other appropriate checks on all staff at enhanced level. Check will be repeated every 3 years.
- ▶ Ensure our approach to safeguarding is learner centred and staff consider at all times what is in the best interests of the learner.
- ▶ Ensure that all team members are recruited according to current safer recruitment guidelines and receive training and supervision appropriate to their roles.
- ▶ Communicate to parents, children, our team members and others what our expectations are of their behaviour, and what they can expect in return.
- ▶ Provide information to parents, party leaders, children, adults at risk and carers and our own team members to allow them to raise concerns or complaints about safeguarding concerns.

- ▶ Maintain contacts with statutory child and adult protection agencies to allow close liaison and joint working to the best possible standards.
- ▶ Ensure arrangements are in place to maintain the health and wellbeing of all.
- ▶ Assess all risks that individuals may encounter and manage these accordingly, including risks relating to e-safety and radicalisation.
- ▶ Take a proactive approach to safeguarding which constantly reviews our practice and responds to issues promptly and competently.
- ▶ Ensure each site has a local arrangement document, including thresholds and criteria for action.

Our policy applies to everyone and ensures that all children, young people and adults at risk have the same protection regardless of age, disability, gender, racial heritage, religious belief, sexual orientation or identity.

This policy is subject to review on an annual basis, or sooner if changes to the company's circumstances or the legislative environment necessitate an earlier revision. If no change of policy is required, it is valid for two years from the date of authorisation.

The annual review will be organised by the Policy Owner and take the form of a meeting between the Safeguarding Advisory Group personnel.

This policy has been written to ensure our safeguarding arrangements comply with statutory requirements, regional guidance and procedures together with current good practice, and pays particular regard to:

- ▶ The Children Act 1989
- ▶ The Children Act 2004
- ▶ UN Convention on the Rights of the Child
- ▶ Sexual Offences Act 2003
- ▶ Protection of Freedom Act 2012
- ▶ Keeping Children Safe In Education 2021
- ▶ Working Together to Safeguard Children 2018
- ▶ Care Act 2014
- ▶ Mental Capacity Act 2005
- ▶ Safeguarding Vulnerable Groups 2006
- ▶ Social Services and Wellbeing Act 2014
- ▶ General Data Protection Regulations

Governance and Accountability

Inspiring Learning Safeguarding: Lead and Deputy

Our Lead for Safeguarding is:

Shelley Davison, People Director, Inspiring Learning
Telephone Number: 07768 586621

Our Deputy Lead is:

Klaudia Ratajczak, Inspiring Learning
Telephone Number: 07768 008623

Our Policy holder is:

Shelley Davison, People Director, Inspiring Learning
Telephone Number: 07768 586621

Their role is to:

- ▶ Oversee and ensure that our safeguarding policy is fully implemented.
- ▶ Child and Adult Safeguarding is up to national standards
- ▶ Undertake and update training every two years and be aware of and follow local arrangements.
- ▶ Ensure our safeguarding standards are communicated to all team members.
- ▶ Ensure details are made available to all adults, children and parents/carers.
- ▶ Ensure all team members receive training in safeguarding, appropriate to their role.
- ▶ Ensure DBS (Disclosure and Barring Service) recruiting and reporting procedures are adhered to.
- ▶ Keep all records confidential, in line with statutory guidance and GDPR, ensuring due regard to principles which allow both sharing and withholding personal information.
- ▶ Ensure reports are made to the relevant agency in all cases where children or vulnerable adults are thought to be at risk.

Safeguarding Advisory Group

This Group represents a wide spectrum of areas within the business.

Their role is to:

- ▶ Support and provide advice and assistance to the centre-based safeguarding lead

- ▶ Review on a quarterly basis all safeguarding reports and make recommendations to Inspiring Learning safeguarding lead.
- ▶ Annually review the safeguarding policy and operating procedures manual.

Centre-based Designated Safeguarding Leads

Their role is to:

- ▶ Be a point of contact for safeguarding concerns risen by children, parents, teachers, team members, party leaders and accompanying adults.
- ▶ Assess the information promptly and carefully, clarifying or obtaining more information about the matter as appropriate.
- ▶ Initially consult locally with a statutory child protection agency such as the Children's Social Care Services (formally known as Social Services) to test out any doubts or uncertainty about the concerns as soon as possible.
- ▶ Make a formal referral to social care services or the police, if a crime has, or may have been committed, without delay. Inspiring Learning recognises that it is not the role of the organisation to investigate or to decide whether or not a child has been abused.

Further details of this role are shown on the DSL job description. See SAG terms of reference re Governance and Accountability.

Safeguarding Operational Procedures

In support of the Inspiring Learning Safeguarding Policy and to underpin legislation and national guidance Inspiring Learning have developed comprehensive operational procedures with key thematic areas of focus:

Safer Recruiting

We have a clear recruitment, induction and training strategy. We will adhere to safer recruitment best practice; clear job descriptions, terms and conditions of employment, team member's responsibilities and training programmes which identify relevant procedures for each role. All new team members complete safeguarding training during their induction.

This includes E-safety, the team code of conduct, reporting systems and the role of the DSL. All new team members will have a probationary review within the third month of employment and will then be observed and appraised at regular intervals throughout their period of employment.

The safeguarding training strategy, competencies, matrix and code of practice for training and qualification requirements for all Inspiring Learning employees are bench-marked against national standards and are outlined in the safeguarding operating procedures manual and the employee handbook.

Safer Environment

Inspiring Learning place a strong emphasis on ensuring each site is secure and has a consistent approach to safeguarding. Procedures have been developed to reflect and respond to the surroundings with the establishment of local arrangements. Each site is the subject of audit / inspection and review to ensure all procedures mitigate risk and enhance the learning experience.

Safer Systems

Robust and effective systems have been established that all team members are familiar with and have been equipped to respond appropriately to all safeguarding and child and adult protection concerns. Safer Systems provides clarity regarding Inspiring Learning referral pathways- this thematic area has been developed to ensure process is thresholding and decision making are consistent across all locations and provide a foundation to mitigate threat and risk and minimise harm to all concerned.

Safer Communication

Safer Communication in safeguarding- the ability for Inspiring Learning to communicate corporately to the Inspiring Learning Community with clear internal and external messaging regarding the importance of safeguarding together with reinforcing clear procedural messages is vital. This overarching strand has links to the marketing of safeguarding initiatives, developmental programmes and hot updates on safeguarding developments and learning underpinning a strong Inspiring Learning safeguarding culture.

Safer Workforce

To compliment safer recruitment, safer workforce ensures that each team member is trained, equipped and supported to be able to continuously and consistently deliver a safeguarding response to the highest standard.

Safer Data / Information

We have a clear policy regarding confidentiality and information sharing linked to GDPR and the Data Protection Act 2018. We will ensure that accurate records are made, stored securely and only shared appropriately.

We fully endorse the principle that the welfare of children and young people override any obligations of confidence we may hold to others.

Signatures

Individual cases will only be shared or discussed on a “need to know” basis.

In very exceptional circumstances when someone is concerned that the company is not dealing with child or adult safeguarding concern appropriately (as per the ‘open-door’ policy), or when the concern is about a DSL they should contact speakupspeakout@inspiring-learning.com or our Head of Safeguarding. As a last resort they may contact Local Authority Children Social Care or Adult Social Care, or the police if a crime has, or may have been committed. This is an action that is legally covered by whistle-blowing.

This policy should be read and applied in conjunction with the Inspiring Learning ‘Safeguarding’ Procedures. The Policy will be maintained by Head of Safeguarding and will be reviewed by the Safeguarding Advisory Group – Inspiring Learning in accordance with the annual review procedure set out in the company ‘Safeguarding’ Policy Statement.

Signed



Alex Williamson
Group Chief Executive Officer
Inspiring Learning
2020

Signed



Klaudia Ratajczak
Safeguarding and Well-being Advisor
Inspiring Learning
2021

Appendix: Covid 19 Safeguarding Update

March 2020 to November 2020

The safety and wellbeing of all our teams and guests are our main priority and ensuring that we have robust systems and processes in place to safeguard our guests and teams are outlined within this policy.

In addition to our safeguarding policy, we have included the following as a reminder of our team's duties and responsibilities to safeguarding during the COVID -19 crisis.

It will be especially important for Inspiring Learning to ensure that:

- ▶ The best interests of children must always continue to come first, during the pandemic.
- ▶ If anyone has a safeguarding concern about any child they should act immediately following our normal reporting process.
- ▶ Appropriate designated safeguarding lead arrangements are in place, and we should ensure all our teams and guests know who to report incidents or areas of concern to.

In addition to the above, we have also taken into consideration particular care for:

- ▶ Individual children who have found the long period at home hard to manage.
- ▶ Those who have developed anxieties related to the virus.
- ▶ Some children may also have experienced bereavements in their immediate family or wider circle of friends or family or had increased or new caring responsibilities.
- ▶ We also want to provide additional support to our guests on particularly the below area's.
- ▶ Opportunities for children to talk about their experiences of the past few months.
- ▶ Opportunities for conversations with trusted adults where this may be supportive.

If anyone has any need to contact the safeguarding team please in the first instance contact your DSL.

Alternatively please report any incidents or areas of concern to: speakupspkout@inspiring-learning.com alternatively you can contact Stephen Watson Safeguarding Lead on 07814469179 or stephen.watson@inspiring-learning.com