

The LC Academy

Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy

1. Introduction

The LC Academy is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of all students. We recognise that all children have the right to protection from harm and exploitation. This policy outlines our commitment to safeguarding and the procedures we have in place to ensure the safety and well-being of our students.

2. Purpose of the Policy

The purpose of this policy is to:

- Protect children and young people who receive our services.
- Provide staff and volunteers with guidance on procedures they should follow in the event that they suspect a child is experiencing abuse or neglect.

3. Legal Framework

This policy has been developed in accordance with:

- The Bahrain Child Law (Law No. 37 of 2012).
- The United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child.
- Relevant Bahraini regulations and guidelines concerning child protection.

4. Scope

This policy applies to all staff, volunteers, students, and parents associated with The LC Academy.

5. Definitions

- Child: Any person under the age of 18.
- Safeguarding: The action taken to promote the welfare of children and protect them from harm.
- Abuse: Any form of physical, emotional, or sexual harm, or neglect of a child.

6. Policy Statements

- The LC Academy is committed to creating a safe environment for all children.
- All staff and volunteers must adhere to the highest standards of conduct to ensure the safety and well-being of children.
- We will provide training and resources to ensure staff understand their responsibilities regarding child protection.

7. Responsibilities

- Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL): The DSL is responsible for the implementation of this policy and for ensuring all concerns about child welfare are addressed promptly and appropriately.
- Staff and Volunteers: All staff and volunteers must report any concerns about a child's welfare to the DSL immediately.

8. Procedures for Reporting Concerns

1. Recognising Signs of Abuse: Staff should be aware of the signs of abuse and neglect, including physical indicators and behavioural changes.
2. Reporting: If a staff member has concerns, they must report them to the DSL without delay. The DSL will assess the situation and determine whether further action is needed.

3. Confidentiality: Information regarding concerns will be treated confidentially and shared only with those who need to know.

4. Record Keeping: All reports and actions taken will be documented and stored securely.

9. Recruitment and Training

- All staff and volunteers will be subject to background checks.
- Safeguarding training will be provided to all staff and volunteers to ensure they understand child protection policies and procedures.

10. Allegations Against Staff

- If an allegation is made against a member of staff, it will be taken seriously and investigated promptly. The DSL will involve the relevant authorities if necessary.

11. Code of Conduct

- Staff and volunteers are expected to adhere to a code of conduct that promotes positive relationships and appropriate boundaries with children.

12. Review of the Policy

This policy will be reviewed annually and updated as necessary to ensure it remains compliant with current legislation and best practices.

13. Contact Information

For any concerns related to child protection, please contact:

****Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL)****

[Name]

[Contact Number]

[Email Address]

14. Conclusion

The LC Academy is dedicated to ensuring a safe and supportive environment for all children. We believe that safeguarding is everyone's responsibility and are committed to working together to promote the welfare of our students.