



University College Birmingham

Safeguarding policy statement

November 2020

The purpose and scope of this policy statement

The purpose of this policy statement is:

- to protect children and vulnerable people who receive University College Birmingham's services from harm.
- to provide staff and volunteers, as well as students and their families, with the overarching principles that guide our approach to child protection.

This policy applies to all students, staff, governors, volunteers, contractors, subcontractors and visitors to University College Birmingham, irrespective of age, gender, ethnicity and disability.

Legal framework

This policy has been drawn up on the basis of legislation, policy and guidance that seeks to protect children in England. A summary of the key legislation is available from [nspcc.org.uk/learning](https://www.nspcc.org.uk/learning).

Supporting documents

This policy statement should be read alongside our organisational policies, procedures, guidance and other related documents.

- Safeguarding processes and procedures
- Employee code of conduct
- Relationships between employees and students – code of professional conduct
- Social media policy
- Social networking policy
- Canvas acceptable use policy (Online safety)
- Computer misuse policy
- E-Safety (CyberBullying) policy
- Student charter
- Student attendance policy
- Recruitment policy
- Supervising students on residential visits
- Anti-bullying policy

- Making a disclosure in the public interest (whistleblowing) policy
- Health and safety policy
- Equal opportunities policy
- Prevent policy

We believe that:

- children and vulnerable people should never experience abuse of any kind
- we have a responsibility to promote the welfare of all children and vulnerable people, to keep them safe and to practise in a way that protects them.

We recognise that:

- the welfare of children and vulnerable people is paramount in all the work we do and in all the decisions we take; all students, regardless of age, disability, gender reassignment, race, religion or belief, sex, or sexual orientation have an equal right to protection from all types of harm or abuse
- some students are additionally vulnerable because of the impact of previous experiences, their level of dependency, communication needs or other issues
- working in partnership with children, vulnerable people, their parents, carers and other agencies is essential in promoting children's and vulnerable people's welfare.

We will seek to keep children and vulnerable people safe by:

- valuing, listening to and respecting them
- appointing a designated safeguarding lead (DSL), a deputy (DDSL) and a lead governor for safeguarding
- implement effective safeguarding policies and procedures and reviewing these annually
- implementing an effective online safety policy and related procedures
- providing effective management for staff and volunteers through supervision, support, training and quality assurance measures so that all staff and volunteers know about and follow our policies, procedures and behaviour codes confidently and competently
- recruiting and selecting staff and volunteers safely, ensuring all necessary checks are made
- recording, storing and using information professionally and securely, in line with data protection legislation and guidance
- sharing information about safeguarding and good practice with students through their induction, the curriculum, the college's website and portals, and other appropriate media
- making sure that children, vulnerable people and staff know where to go for help if they have a concern
- using our safeguarding procedures to share concerns and relevant information with agencies who need to know, and involving children, vulnerable people, parents, families and carers appropriately
- using our procedures to manage any allegations against staff and volunteers appropriately
- creating and maintaining an anti-bullying environment and ensuring that we have a policy and procedure to help us deal effectively with any bullying that does arise
- ensuring that we have effective complaints and whistleblowing measures in place

- ensuring that we provide a safe physical environment for our students, staff and volunteers, by applying health and safety measures in accordance with the law and regulatory guidance
- building a safeguarding culture where all students, staff and volunteers treat each other with respect and are comfortable about sharing concerns.

Contact details

	Role	Contact details
Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL)	Student Welfare & Safeguarding Manager	Neil McStravick n.mcstravick@ucb.ac.uk Ext. 2351 0121 232 4151
Deputy DSL	University Secretary and Registrar	Joseph Young j.young@ucb.ac.uk Ext: 2234 0121 604 1000
Alternative contact if unable to contact DSL or DDSL	Pa to Executive team	Nicola Baker n.baker@ucb.ac.uk Ext: 2234 0121 232 4034
Executive Team Member responsible for safeguarding	Vice-Chancellor & Principal	Michael Harkin or Ext: m.harkin@ucb.ac.uk Ext: 2329 0121 604 1000

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

This policy was last reviewed on:

Signed: Neil McStravick (Student Welfare & Safeguarding Manager)

Date: 9th November 2020