



**Acorn**  
Education Trust

# Safeguarding and Child Protection Statement

Person responsible | Sara Edwards

Approved by directors

First written | November 2018 / last amended September 2020

For review	Reviewed	Signature
July 2020	Completed	Jo Ronxin
July 2021		
July 2022		
July 2023		
July 2024		
July 2025		

*All policies are renewed annually. If no change then just signed. If an amendment or full change is required, this is recorded.*

## What is safeguarding?

- Safeguarding is “the action that is taken to promote the welfare of children and protect them from harm”.
- Safeguarding means: Protecting children from abuse and maltreatment, preventing harm to children’s health or development, ensuring children grow up with the provision of safe and effective care.
- Safeguarding is the responsibility of all adults, especially those working or volunteering with children. Acorn Education Trust aims to help protect the children in its care by working consistently and appropriately with all relevant agencies to reduce risk and promote the welfare of children.
- Staff in Acorn Education Trust Schools will follow the child protection procedures set out by the Wiltshire Safeguarding Children Board (<http://www.wiltshirescb.org.uk/>) and will have regard to statutory guidance issued by the Department for Education Keeping Children Safe in Education, 2020:  
[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/835733/Keeping\\_children\\_safe\\_in\\_education\\_2020.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/835733/Keeping_children_safe_in_education_2020.pdf)  
[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/779401/Working\\_Together\\_to\\_Safeguard-Children.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/779401/Working_Together_to_Safeguard-Children.pdf)
- Staff are advised to maintain an attitude of ‘it could happen here’ as far as safeguarding is concerned, and should always act in the best interest of the child.

## What is child protection?

- Child protection is a part of safeguarding and promoting welfare. This refers to the activity which is undertaken to protect specific children who are suffering, or at risk of suffering, significant harm.

## Who is responsible for safeguarding & child protection?

The Head of School Support (Safeguarding) of the Acorn Education Trust takes overall leadership responsibility for safeguarding arrangements in each of the schools within the Trust. The Head of School Support (Safeguarding) can be contacted on [ro@acorneducationtrust.com](mailto:ro@acorneducationtrust.com)

Each of the schools within the Acorn Education Trust have a Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) and Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead (DDSL) for safeguarding and child protection. During school days, in term time, the DSL and/or a DDSL should always be available during school hours for staff in schools to discuss any safeguarding concerns they may have.

Each school within the Acorn Education Trust will have their safeguarding and child protection policy available on their school website, and the policy will provide names and contact details for the DSL and DDSL.

**Useful numbers to contact**

- If you believe a child is at immediate risk of significant harm or injury, you must call the police on 999.
- Wiltshire Designated Officer for Allegations (DOFA): 01225 713945
- Children's Social Care referrals - Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH): 0300 456 0108 (Out of hours: 0300456 0100)
- Early Help Single Point of Entry: 01225 718230