



## Dulwich International High School Suzhou

# Safeguarding Policy

This policy was written by the DCI Director of Safeguarding and the DCI Designated Safeguarding Leads and is subject to annual review and final approval by the DCI Executive Committee.

Individual Colleges or Schools may amend the policy as required by local regulations or context.

The DCI Director of Safeguarding will ensure compliance with this Policy across the DCI Group of Colleges and Schools.

Updated: June 2018



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## Rationale

Dulwich College International (DCI) schools define safeguarding as *the way in which we provide a safe and effective environment so that all our children can fully develop and learn*. We take every step to ensure that children in our care are protected from all forms of abuse and neglect.

This policy describes how we fulfil this duty and sets out the responsibilities of DCI and every DCI school for safeguarding and promoting the welfare of all our children. It includes policy provisions as well as directives covering Safeguarding practice and procedures in all DCI schools.

The provisions of this document apply to all adults visiting or working with children in DCI schools, including volunteers, interns, gap students, contractors, consultants, board members, guests and visitors, and in this document, the term "child" refers to any student in our care, regardless of their age.

We aim to comply with local safeguarding legal requirements and to meet all standards required by the Council of International Schools (CIS) and the British Schools Overseas (BSO) standards.

Safeguarding is central to all that we do in our school and is a standing item on all meeting agendas.

The principles that underpin our commitment to Safeguarding are as follows:

- The safety and wellbeing of children comes first
- Everyone who works with children has a responsibility to keep them safe. DCI commits to ensuring all those who work with children receive appropriate safeguarding training.
- Every child has a right to feel safe and our child-centred approach is modelled on the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child
- We support the needs of the individual child and recognise that some children are potentially more vulnerable than others, e.g. children with SEN, disabilities, looked after and previously looked after children.

### **Indicators of Abuse and Neglect (also see Appendix A)**

In our DCI colleges and schools, our indicators of abuse and neglect are adopted from the *Keeping Children Safe in Education 2018* DfE statutory guidance for Schools and Colleges and include:

- Physical Abuse
- Emotional Abuse
- Sexual Abuse
- Neglect



## Our Commitment to Safeguarding

At Dulwich International High School Suzhou we have a commitment to upholding the principles of safeguarding as outlined by this policy.

The key roles and responsibilities across the DCI Group and within the College are outlined at Appendix B.

The school has a Safeguarding Working Party made up of representatives from each area of the school, including the Safeguarding Lead, the Child Protection Officer(s) (CPOs) and the Lead Trainer. The chair of this working party will report directly to the Director. The role of the group is to:

- Monitor safeguarding practices within the school
- Develop an action plan encompassing operational practices and strategic development relating to the annual audit.
- Oversee professional learning with regards to safeguarding

The chair of this group will be a member of the DCI Safeguarding Working Party. This group will meet at least once a year to review DCI policy and recommend updates.

Within our school the following have specific safeguarding roles:

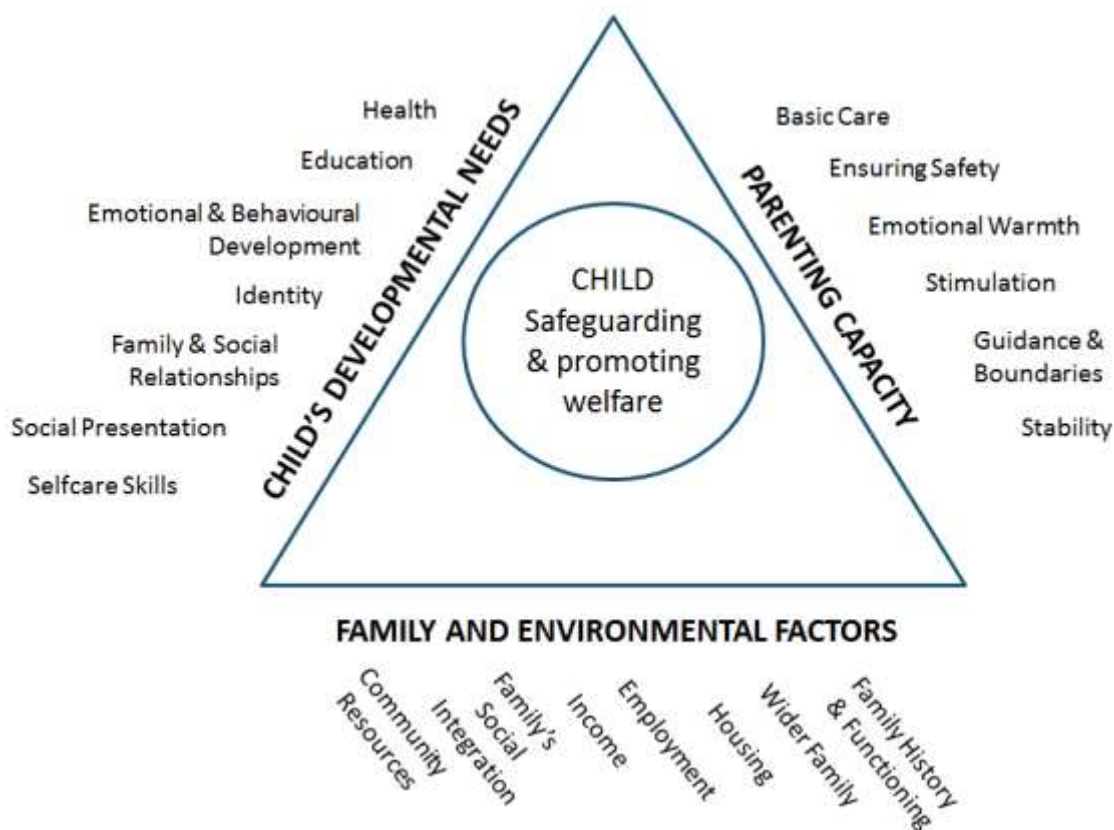
Role	Person
DCI Director of Safeguarding (Board of Management Representative)	John Todd (john.todd@indulwich.com)
Director	Campbell Douglas (Campbell.Douglas@dchigh-suzhou.cn)
Designated Safeguarding Lead	Peter Garnhum (Peter.Garnhum@dchigh-suzhou.cn)
Child Protection Officer	Richard Nunns (Richard.Nunns@dchigh-suzhou.cn)
Deputy Child Protection Officers	Peter Garnhum (email above)  Sharon Zhuang ( <a href="mailto:Sharon.Zhuang@dchigh-suzhou.cn">Sharon.Zhuang@dchigh-suzhou.cn</a> )  Stephen Cobb (Stephen.Cobb@dchigh-suzhou.cn)
Local Staff Focal Point	Sharon Zhuang ( <a href="mailto:Sharon.Zhuang@dchigh-suzhou.cn">Sharon.Zhuang@dchigh-suzhou.cn</a> )
Safeguarding Lead Trainers	Peter Garnhum (email above)



	Lauren Li (Lauren.Li@dchigh-suzhou.cn)
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## Managing Concerns About Children

In our colleges and schools, we take a systematic approach to managing concerns, as set out in the following model:



From UK HM Government, "Working together to safeguard children (March 2015)"

Concerns are defined in two categories:

- Child Protection Concerns – where the child is at significant or immediate risk of harm
- Safeguarding Concerns – where the child is potentially vulnerable, but not at significant or immediate risk of harm

Upon receipt of a Child Protection Concern, the Child Protection Officer informs the Director. The Designated Safeguarding Lead is informed or consulted as appropriate.

When a Safeguarding Concern arises, the Child Protection Officer consults with the Designated Safeguarding Lead to ensure that the appropriate strategy is agreed and implemented. The Director will be informed.

In the absence of the Director, or where the issue is related to the Director, concerns will be taken directly to John Todd, the DCI Director of Safeguarding.



## Early Help

The school will ensure that any internal, cross college, local, national or international sources of support are identified through the school mapping tool. Contacts may be used to support children and their families when early signs of any challenges to a child's safety or wellbeing are evident.

The school will ensure that all members of staff and employees are familiar with the procedures for keeping a confidential written record of any incidents. See Appendix C.

Members of staff and volunteers are **not** required and must not investigate suspicions; staff or volunteers who believe that a child may be at risk will immediately refer concerns to their CPO.

The school encourages a culture of safe reporting for all members of the school community. Including concerns about peer on peer abuse, relating to activities either online or in person.

All staff should be aware that safeguarding issues can manifest as peer on peer abuse. This is most likely to include, but may not be limited to:

- bullying (including cyberbullying);
- physical abuse such as hitting, kicking, shaking, biting, hair pulling, or otherwise causing physical harm;
- sexual violence and sexual harassment;
- sexting (also known as youth produced sexual imagery); and
- initiation / hazing type violence and rituals.

*Keeping Children Safe in Education 2018 p.15*

Each College or school ensures that regular learning opportunities are created to minimise peer on peer abuse. They also ensure that children know how to recognise unacceptable behaviour from adults or peers and feel confident to report any concerns they may have. Education on this will be delivered annually through the *Speak Out and Stay Safe* programme. Individuals will be supported through the pastoral system.

## Reporting or Recording Concerns About a Child

All adults, including staff, volunteers, interns, gap students, contractors, consultants, board members, guests and visitors must report concerns immediately, maintaining confidentiality and reporting immediately to their identified CPO or Deputy CPO in their absence. They will be asked to record their concerns on the Confidential Record of Concern form (available from the CPO). See Appendix C.

The CPO will also record and manage any such concerns about safeguarding and peer on peer abuse (see Appendix D). Such concerns will always be taken seriously and acted upon, under the appropriate policy e.g. safeguarding, bullying, not dismissed as 'banter' or 'part of growing up'.

It is the responsibility of the CPO to take the next steps in the process. All documentation will be stored in a safe place. Staff must feel confident that they will be supported if they report any concerns about a child. Staff will be expected to ensure that any reports written about any safeguarding situation are child-centred, in the child's best interests, rooted in child development and informed by evidence.

The Director may instruct the CPO to gather a response team to assess a reported child protection concern. The make-up of the team will depend upon the nature of the situation. The team will take a holistic approach, addressing the child's needs within their family, the college or school, the wider community and the local or international context.

The school should have due regard to local laws and regulations concerning the reporting of suspected instances of domestic abuse. Should a circumstance arise that may lead to a reporting obligation, guidance should be immediately sought from the DCI Director of Safeguarding who may consult with a member of the DCI legal department.



Decisions made by the response team should be agreed with the child and family where possible. A clear process of evaluation with a clear timeframe will be recorded along with the impact of any change on the welfare of the child.

## Confidentiality

The school and all members of its staff will ensure that all data relating to children is confidentially managed in accordance with the requirements of DCI and applicable national or local guidance, laws or regulations.

Those reporting any safeguarding concerns will adhere to the lines of communication, ensuring confidentiality. The CPO will support the process outlined in this document, and the school will give detailed information about lines of communication in the induction process and at the beginning of every academic year.

Any member of staff who has access to confidential information about a child and / or the child's family must take all reasonable steps to maintain confidentiality. The Director and CPO will agree the appropriate next steps regarding this information.

Regardless of the duty of confidentiality, any member of staff who has reason to believe that a child is at immediate or significant risk of harm, has a duty to forward this information without delay to the CPO. Volunteers and visitors are not authorised to take any action; their roles are strictly limited to reporting if they are concerned or have witnessed any concerning behaviour while in the College.

## Safeguarding Training Strategy

The school has a Safeguarding Training Team consisting of:

- Two lead Safeguarding Trainers (one fluent in English, and one fluent in the local language) and an appropriate number of Safeguarding Trainers.
- The Professional Learning Directors at the school shall support the Safeguarding Training Programme.

Please see Appendix B for the role of the Safeguarding Trainer that will be added to each job description so that this role forms part of the professional review process.

All training materials will be kept in a designated central location.

Training schedules will be posted online at the school or via ConnectED.

## Staff and Volunteers

### Safer recruitment

To ensure that children are protected while at the school, we will carefully select, screen, train and supervise our staff.

Details of the safer recruitment policy followed can be found in the DCI Recruitment Policy.

### Volunteers and visitors

We recognise that some people who may be unsuitable for working with children may use volunteering as an opportunity to gain access to children. The Director will ensure that a risk assessment is undertaken on regular volunteers (including gap students and interns) and will determine whether or not to proceed with criminal record and identity checks. All regular volunteers will also receive the relevant level of safeguarding



training, sign the Safeguarding Code of Conduct at Appendix F; this will be recorded on the single central record (SCR).

Parents or other volunteers who help on an occasional basis must work under the direct supervision of a member of staff, and may at no time have unsupervised contact with children. They must also sign the Volunteer Safeguarding Statement.

The school shall maintain a Safeguarding Guide for all visitors. All visitors who come on campus will be asked to read the Safeguarding statement before being issued a visitor's pass.

### Contractors

The school will ensure that all the companies they work with provide evidence of police checks and that any contractors are supervised on site and given appropriate training.

## Professional and Personal Conduct of Staff and Volunteers

The College has a duty to ensure that professional behaviour applies to relationships between staff and children, and that all members of staff are clear about what constitutes appropriate behaviour and professional boundaries. All staff will sign the *DCI Safeguarding Code of Conduct* at Appendix F.

#### You must:

- maintain the highest levels of personal and professional conduct;
- be able to identify situations that may place a member of the school community at risk and know how to deal with such situations;
- know how to report any concerns, suspicions, or certainties about possible abuse or maltreatment;
- show caution before touching a child, and be aware of how physical touch may be perceived and/or misunderstood, and whether it is appropriate;
- organise work and the workplace to minimise any potential safeguarding risks; including always being as visible as possible to other adults when working with children;
- ensure that any actions or forms of behaviour that are inappropriate or may lead to abuse do not go unnoticed or tolerated;
- respect children's rights and treat them with fairness, honesty, dignity and respect;
- avoid language or behaviour that devalues the importance of safeguarding and the protection of children.

#### You must never:

- abuse or maltreat a child (physically, emotionally, sexually, or through neglect);
- use your position to intimidate, bully, threaten, discriminate against, coerce or undermine anyone in the school community;
- behave or communicate with children or adults to build inappropriate relationships in order to abuse or put them at risk;
- give or receive gifts to/from children; give special rewards or privileges in an attempt to build inappropriate relationships with children;
- engage in, or attempt to engage in, sexual or inappropriate relationships with children, including the use of suggestive conversations, comments, texting, sharing of inappropriate images / videos, or emails;
- engage with children using online personal communication including but not limited to e-mail, chats, and social networks, except only professional online tools and environments that are sanctioned by the employer and used in the course of the child's education and welfare;
- possess or share indecent images of children;
- sleep in the same room or bed as a child with whom you are working;
- do things for children of a personal nature that they can do themselves;
- offer transport in your car to a student without express parental/management permission, except in the case of emergency;
- carry out your duties or volunteering whilst adversely affected by alcohol, solvents or drugs;
- encourage or assist others to break the law in any way; condone or participate in behaviour by children that is illegal, abusive or endangers their safety;
- discriminate against, show differential treatment towards or favour particular children to the exclusion of others.





## Use of Reasonable Force

On a rare occasion, a staff member may have to make a physical intervention to a child that is not expected. Members of staff should only do this:

- where action is necessary in self-defence or because there is an imminent risk of injury
- where there is a developing risk of injury, or significant damage to property

*Examples of such situations are:*

- *A child attacks a member of staff, or another child*
- *Children are fighting*
- *A child is causing, or at risk of causing, injury or damage by accident, by rough play, or by misuse of dangerous materials, substances or objects*
- *A child is or appears to be under the influence of alcohol or illegal substances*
- *A child absconds from school (this will only apply if a child would be at serious risk if not kept in school)*

Physical intervention can take a number of forms. It might involve staff:

- Physically interposing between children
- Blocking a child's path
- Leading a child by the arm
- Shepherding a child away by placing a hand in the centre of the back or (in extreme circumstances) using more restrictive holds, including holding, pushing and pulling

Due regard should be given to the school's Safe Touch policy.

Specific adults will be trained to restrain any child who may require physical intervention as part of an individual care plan.

## Allegations Against a Member of Staff, Volunteer or Board Member

When an allegation is made against a staff member or other adult, whether by a child or another adult, the DCI procedure for managing allegations will be followed as outlined in the DCI Management of Safeguarding Concerns and Allegations about the Conduct of Staff Policy.

## Safeguarding Whistleblowing Guidance

A staff member may recognise that something is wrong but may not feel able to express concerns because of loyalty to colleagues or a fear of harassment or victimisation. We encourage all adults to ensure that children are their priority and should not be unnecessarily at risk. This is known as 'whistleblowing'.

Reasons for whistleblowing:

- Every individual has a responsibility to raise concerns about unacceptable practice or behaviour in relation to the safety and welfare of our children.
- To prevent a problem from becoming more serious.
- To protect or reduce risks to other children in the school.



#### How to raise a concern:

- Concerns should be expressed as soon as possible. The earlier a concern is expressed the sooner action can be taken.
- The concern should express exactly what practice is causing concern and why.
- The person raising a concern should approach the Director immediately and in his absence, the DCI Director of Safeguarding, John Todd or the Director of Schools, Marc Morris.  
If a concern is expressed about the Director, it should be referred to the DCI Director of Safeguarding, John Todd or the Director of Schools, Marc Morris.

#### The next steps:

- The staff member specified in any whistle blowing procedure should be given information about the nature and progress of any enquiries.
- The employer has a responsibility to protect the staff member from any harassment or victimisation including, where appropriate, keeping the whistle blowing staff member's identity confidential.
- No action will be taken against the whistle blower if the concern proves to be unfounded and was raised in good faith.

#### Self-reporting

Occasionally a member of staff may have a personal difficulty that they know is impinging on their professional competence. Staff have a responsibility to discuss such a situation with their line manager so that professional and personal support can be offered. Whilst such reporting will remain confidential in most instances, this cannot be guaranteed where personal difficulties raise concerns about the welfare or safety of children in the school.

#### Further advice and support

It is recognised that whistle blowing can be difficult and stressful. Advice and support will be made available to the member of staff concerned.

#### Retention of Files

All file documentation relating to concerns about a child or adult will be kept indefinitely and stored separately in a fireproof safe.

#### Prevent

The Prevent Duty places a duty on education providers to identify children at risk of being drawn into radicalisation and terrorism. Each school shall have due regard to the social and cultural context in which it operates in determining to what extent the Prevent Duty should be implemented. Appropriate information about Prevent will be part of the DCI training content.

#### Digital Safety

E-safety is an integral part of the curriculum. The use of ICT equipment and systems are well monitored and appropriate actions are taken where issues are identified. We are committed to ensuring that our school is a safe digital learning community through the curriculum, professional development, auditing of systems, working with parents and developing detailed e-policies.

Staff, children, parents, visitors and volunteers are expected to engage in the safe and responsible use of social media. However, any member of staff who has or is alerted to any child protection concerns related to the use of the internet or social media should follow the lines of communication set out in this policy.



The school acknowledges that parents like to take photos and videos of their children in performances, sports events and other presentations. This is a normal part of family life, and we will not discourage parents from celebrating their children's successes.

If parents indicate to the school that they would not like their child's photograph or video to appear in the school's materials, brochures, websites, advertisements or press releases, we will ensure that the parents' wishes are fulfilled. The school cannot, however, be held accountable for any photos or videos taken by parents or members of the public at school functions and shared thereafter via social media or other means.

Staff are expected to take photos of children for educational purposes (such as Tapestry, Educa, Seesaw etc.) on school devices but in the unlikely event of taking photos on personal devices, these images must be deleted immediately.

The school has an E-Safety policy and due regard should be had to the practices contained within.

## Homestays

The school does not offer homestays for students from other schools.

## The Audit Process

The school will be alternately internally and externally audited on a two-year cycle. The action plan resulting from the audit will be agreed and signed by the following:

- The DCI auditors
- The Director
- Designated Safeguarding Lead
- The DCI Director of Safeguarding

The Safeguarding Working Party, chaired by the Safeguarding Lead, will review the action plan at three meetings per year. The Safeguarding Lead will discuss the action plan with the Director at their termly Safeguarding meetings, and Director will report progress at each meeting of the Board of Management.

## Safeguarding – Policy Links

The following essential and relevant policy documents can all be accessed on the school server.

- Management of Safeguarding Concerns and Allegations about the Conduct of Staff Policy.
- Safe Touch Policy
- Use of Reasonable Force Policy
- Recruitment Policy
- Anti-bullying Policy
- Health and Safety Policy
- Behaviour Management Policy
- Fire Safety Policy
- Lockdown Policy and other emergency procedures
- First Aid Policy (medical procedures)
- Educational Visits Policy (to include risk assessments)
- Supervision of Students Policy
- Procedures for maintaining admissions and attendance registers
- E-safety Policy
- CCTV Surveillance Policy



## Appendices

- A. Indicators of abuse and neglect
- B. Key roles and responsibilities
- C. Confidential Record of Concern (RoC)
- D. Record of concern Tracking document
- E. DCI Safeguarding Training Framework
- F. Safeguarding Code of Conduct
- G. Volunteer Safeguarding statement
- H. Visitor Safeguarding statement
- I. Flow chart *reporting a concern about a child*
- J. Flow chart *managing allegations reporting about an adult*
- K. Head of College / Director checklist