



Safeguarding and Child Protection Statement

Person responsible for statement: Chief Executive

Revised: July 2025

Review Date: July 2026

Introduction

The River Learning Trust is committed to ensuring that all children and young people in its schools are safe and protected from harm.

Each school within the River Learning Trust has its own Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy. This statement outlines the requirements for schools and for the Trust Central Team. It also outlines the role of the Local Authority and the Local Safeguarding Children Board.

Individual School Policies

It is a requirement that all schools in the River Learning Trust have their own Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy. A model policy is drawn up by the Local Authority and the Local Safeguarding Children Board. This model policy must be adopted by schools and reviewed annually.

All River Learning Trust school staff working in regulated activity with children and young people receive level 2 training approved by OSCB every 3 years as well as refresher training every year. All staff also complete approved PREVENT training which is refreshed every 3 years. There is an ongoing programme of training throughout the year to make sure that safeguarding is at the forefront of people's minds.

All vetting procedures are in place and recorded on the school's single central records before adults are allowed to work with children and young people.

The Trust Central Team

Members of the River Learning Trust Central Team are based in different schools across the Trust. Team members should follow both the RLT Central Team Policy and the Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy for the school where they are based, and if they work in more than one school are aware of the differences in implementation of the individual school policies.

Our Safeguarding Lead, who is Level 3 safeguarding trained, works with individual schools to make sure that they are compliant in all areas related to safeguarding. Our Safeguarding Officer works with individual schools to make sure that the student safeguarding records are of the highest quality.

In addition, all members of the Central Team have completed Level 2 Training so that they can play a part in ensuring that children and young people are safe. This is supported by briefing slides throughout the year.

Trustees receive annual training and are responsible for ratifying all RLT policies which can be found here on the Trust website.

All members of the Central Team who lead on interviews have received safer recruitment training in order to ensure that all employees and volunteers are safe to work with children and young people.

The Role of the Local Authority and Local Safeguarding Children Board

River Learning Trust schools are still accountable to the Local Authority. The Local Authority and the Local Safeguarding Children Partnership update the model safeguarding and child protection policy every September, and this will be used as the basis for the school's policies.

Designated Safeguarding Leads in the Trust

A current list of Designated Safeguarding Leads for the Trust is held by the Trust Central Team. If these roles change, it is the responsibility of the Headteacher at each Trust School to inform the person responsible for the statement so that the list may remain up-to-date. The DSLs meet regularly to share good practice and attend training events.

Contacts

Please refer to school policies which state who and how to contact key individuals in the schools concerning safeguarding and child protection matters. Should you wish to contact the Trust directly about a safeguarding or child protection matter please contact the Chief Executive at the Trust Central Office: email office@riverlearningtrust.org or telephone 01865 558727

If you have concerns about a child or want to find out more about how your child's school carries out their safeguarding procedures, please contact the headteacher or visit the school's website.

You can also contact the Local Authority Designated Officer (LADO)

Oxfordshire LADO

01865 810603

Lado.safeguardingchildren@oxfordshire.gov.uk

Or the Oxfordshire Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH)

0345 050 7666

Swindon LADO

01793 463854

Swindon Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub.

01793 466 903.

E-mail: swindonMASH@swindon.gov.uk