



Severn Bridges

Multi-Academy Trust

Safeguarding Statement

Under the Education Act of 2002 (section 175/157), schools must 'make arrangements to safeguard and promote the welfare of children.' Severn Bridges Multi Academy Trust schools aims to provide a positive, safe and welcoming environment where children are respected and valued.

This safeguarding statement should be read in conjunction with each of our school's Child Protection Policy and procedures, and we request that individual schools are consulted where a Child Protection matter relates to an individual child or group of children.

The Severn Bridges Board of Trustees understands the safeguarding responsibilities placed upon the Trust as part of Keeping Children Safe in Education 2025, and the importance of these responsibilities. They fully recognise the contribution the school and its governors make to safeguarding children, as well as their role in ensuring children in their schools are safe. The safety and protection of all pupils is of paramount importance and we strive to ensure that all staff, including volunteers, have their part to play in protecting pupils from harm.

The Trust meets its statutory requirements in relation to the Disclosure and Barring Scheme. All employees and volunteers who work with children have had appropriate checks and that these are recorded – along with other relevant information – on the Single Central Record of each school. Audits of each school's Single Central Record are undertaken termly by the safeguarding governor for that school.

Safeguarding policies are up to date. Policies are reviewed regularly by the Headteacher and Local Governing Body (at least annually) and updated in response to national guidance and model documents issued by Local Safeguarding Children Partnerships.

Each school has a named Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) and Deputy Designated Safeguarding Leads, and a local link governor, and there is a Board Trustee who is the named lead for safeguarding.

All Severn Bridges MAT staff have undertaken and are up to date with safeguarding training, both core and on specific subjects or themes (such as child sexual exploitation, female genital mutilation etc.,) as well as receiving on-going support and information to help them execute their safeguarding responsibility effectively.

They are familiar with the definitions and signs and symptoms of abuse or neglect, and are aware of their individual roles in safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children including their responsibility to be alert to any issues for concern in the child's life at home or elsewhere.