



The Warriner Multi Academy Trust



The Warriner Multi Academy Trust Directors' Board has adopted the following OCC Model Policy "Managing allegations against other pupils" on behalf of all its schools.

This policy was approved by The Director's Board of the Warriner Multi Academy on 13th December 2017

Signed by.......... Chair of Directors

Review Due; December 2018

Managing allegations against other pupils (peer on peer abuse)

August 2016

Schools safeguarding team



This policy is a guide for schools when dealing with allegation of peer on peer abuse.

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- ❖ Is being made against an older pupil and refers to their behaviour towards a younger or more vulnerable pupil
 - ❖ Is of a possible criminal nature
 - ❖ Puts other pupils in the school at risk, or raises the risk factor for others
 - ❖ Indicates that other pupils may have been harmed or be at risk or harm
 - ❖ Includes bullying (under the definition of emotional abuse) or intimidation

Specific safeguarding issues against another student may include:

- ❖ Physical abuse:
 - Pre-planned violence
 - Physical altercations
 - Forcing other to carry out violence
 - Forcing others to use drugs, alcohol or other substances
- ❖ Emotional abuse:
 - Bullying
 - Threats and Intimidation
 - Blackmail/extortion
- ❖ Sexual abuse:
 - Sexual assault
 - Indecent exposure
 - Indecent touching
 - Showing pornography to others
 - Forcing others to create/share/download indecent images
 - Sexting (see full guidance)
- ❖ Sexual exploitation
 - Encouraging/enticing other pupils to engage in inappropriate sexual behaviour
 - Photographing or videoing other children performing indecent acts
 - Sharing images through social media

Procedure

- ❖ When an allegation is made by a pupil against another student, which is of a safeguarding nature it should be reported to the designated safeguarding lead (DSL) as soon as possible.
- ❖ A factual record must be kept (as normal safeguarding child protection procedures) and updated with all actions and outcomes
- ❖ The incident should not be investigated at this time
- ❖ The DSL will contact the MASH to discuss the case, and make a formal referral where appropriate
- ❖ If the allegation indicates that a potential crime has taken place the MASH will refer the case to the police
- ❖ Parents of both the alleged victim and the student being complained about should be informed, this should be discussed during the consultation with the MASH.

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- ❖ A risk assessment will be considered at this time to protect all parties involved.
 - ❖ It may be appropriate to exclude the alleged culprit against whom the report has been made for a fixed time in line with our schools behaviour policy and procedures.
 - ❖ Police and social care will lead any investigation, however where neither police nor social care thresholds are met, our school will then undertake a thorough investigation following our schools policies and procedures.
 - ❖ A risk assessment should be considered along with an appropriate supervision plan
 - ❖ Support should be given to all student involved, and they should be involved in the relevant meetings and sign and agree to the plans that are set
 - ❖ The plan should be monitored and review dates set

If allegations made directly to other agencies

In some circumstances parent or the alleged victims will report directly to other agencies. In these cases (if not police or social care) these agencies should make referrals to the MASH or the police.

MASH or police should liaise directly with the DSL for the school to inform them of the situation, or liaise with a member of the Designated Officer (LADO) and schools safeguarding team who will contact the DSL with the information.

All professional involved can support with the risk assessment and management of such allegations

Police action and responsibility

Thames Valley Police will make an assessment on a case by case basis as to the legality, proportionality and necessity to share information with partner agencies, including schools.

Where a report is made concerning a school-age child, and the school / educational establishment is already involved, the police should keep the DSL for that setting updated with developments in the case and police officer / staff dealing with the matter. In Oxfordshire, schools receive domestic abuse reports where children are involved in those cases where the police identify a safeguarding need.

Where a report is made concerning a school-age child and the school / educational establishment is not already involved, the police must always give active consideration to sharing relevant information with the setting. This will ensure that the setting can take necessary measures to ensure the safety of the children involved and others they may come into contact with. The decision on appropriate measures to take should be made by the setting with support from the police as necessary.

In the case of police or court bail conditions for safeguarding cases, the police must notify the setting of the conditions which are relevant to keep the child and others safe in the setting.

If a report indicates a safeguarding concern regarding a child or a risk they may pose to others, the presumption is the report will be shared with those who need to know to help keep children safe. A review strategy meeting may be the most appropriate way of communicating and agreeing a suitable course of action.

Contact numbers

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