



## SAFEGUARDING STATEMENT OF INTENT

This statement applies to all academies within Bonitas Multi-Academy Trust

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| <b>Date last reviewed</b>               | Spring 2024   |
| <b>Review period</b>                    | One year  |
| <b>Date of next review</b>              | Autumn 2025   |
| <b>Approved by</b>                      | Board of Trustees   |
| <b>Associated documents/information</b> | Attendance policy<br>Child Protection Policy<br>Keeping Children Safe in Education<br>Safer Recruitment Policy<br>Whistleblowing Policy |

# Safeguarding of Children: Statement of Intent

## Introduction

The Bonitas Trust is committed to ensuring the safety and well-being of all children within its academies. This Safeguarding Statement of Intent outlines our approach, policies, and responsibilities in safeguarding children.

### 1. Fulfilling Statutory Responsibilities

- The Trust recognises its legal obligations regarding safeguarding and child welfare.
- We adhere to national statutory guidelines, including “Keeping Children Safe in Education 2023.”

### 2. Effective Policies and Procedures

- The Trust maintains robust child protection, safeguarding, and staff conduct policies.
- These policies are regularly reviewed and updated to reflect best practices and legislative changes.

### 3. Whistleblowing Procedures

- Clear procedures are in place for reporting concerns or suspicions related to child safety.
- Staff and stakeholders are aware of these procedures and encouraged to use them.

### 4. Safe Recruitment Practices

- The Trust follows rigorous recruitment processes to ensure the suitability of staff and volunteers.
- All relevant checks, including DBS (Disclosure and Barring Service) checks, are conducted.

### 5. Designated Leads and Trustees

- Each academy has a Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) responsible for day-to-day safeguarding.
- Additionally, there is a designated safeguarding governor for each academy within the Trust.
- The Trust also appoints a designated safeguarding trustee to oversee Trust-wide safeguarding efforts.

### 6. Comprehensive Safeguarding Arrangements

- The Trust considers a wide range of safeguarding issues, including Child Sexual Exploitation and Preventing Radicalisation.
- We collaborate with external agencies and share information as necessary.
- We take account of the local authority's procedures and practices established by the Local Safeguarding Children's Team and comply with any requests from them.

### 7. Listening to Children

- Children's voices are valued and respected.
- We actively seek their input and consider their wishes and feelings.

## **8. Staff Support and Training**

- Staff receive regular safeguarding training, including induction for new employees.
- Supervision and support mechanisms are in place to assist staff in fulfilling their safeguarding roles.

## **9. Handling Allegations and Abuse**

- Clear policies are in place for reporting and responding to concerns of abuse against children.
- We adhere to comprehensive policies specifically designed to address allegations against individuals working with children

## **10. Education for Children**

- Our academies educate children about personal safety, including online safety.
- Age-appropriate programs help children understand risks and protective measures.

## **11. Responses to Absences**

- The Trust monitors school attendance and punctuality.
- Appropriate safeguarding responses are implemented when children are absent from education.

## **12. Monitoring and Impact Assessment**

- The Headteachers work closely with the CEO to continuously monitor safeguarding practices.
- Regular updates are provided to the Trust board, ensuring transparency and accountability.

## **Conclusion**

The Bonitas Trust remains dedicated to creating a safe and nurturing environment for all children. By implementing these safeguarding measures, we aim to protect and empower every child within our academies.