North West
Multi Agency Safeguarding
Learning & Support Hub

Terms of Reference: Education Subgroup of the Safeguarding Partnership

Purpose

The Education Committee exists to strengthen the safeguarding of young people through effective collaboration between education colleagues and safeguarding partners. It aims to ensure that educational establishments are fully engaged in safeguarding processes and contribute meaningfully to multi-agency working through the shared identification and understanding of local safeguarding priorities.

"LSPs should create an environment which enables all schools (including independent schools and academy trusts), colleges, early years, and other education and childcare providers in the local area to be fully engaged, involved and included in local safeguarding arrangements. This means making sure that the views and contributions of education and childcare providers are articulated at the highest level of decision-making."

Working Together to Safeguard Children (2023)

Objectives

- Promote a shared understanding of safeguarding responsibilities across all education establishments.
- Support the implementation of safeguarding policies, procedures, and best practices within educational establishments.
- Identify and address emerging safeguarding issues affecting young people in education.
- Facilitate the two-way flow of information between education establishments and the wider safeguarding partnership.
- Ensure the collective voice of the education sector is heard and utilised across the safeguarding partnership.
- Promote the work being undertaken across the safeguarding partnership within educational establishments.

- Strengthen multi-agency working through building close partnerships with other agencies.
- Contribute to the development and review of safeguarding strategies, audits, and learning reviews.
- Design the Section 175 audit and act upon its key findings.
- Ensure that local practice aligns with national standards.
- Support training, development, and capacity-building across the education sector.
- Develop links with other partnership committees to ensure consistency across the safeguarding partnership.
- Direct and oversee the DSL community of practice events.
- Provide reports and content for the safeguarding partnership annual report.
- Identify areas of risk and record them in a risk register, escalating concerns to the executive committee where appropriate.

Membership

The Education Committee will include representatives from:

- Delegated Safeguarding Partner (DSP) for Education
- Early Years Manager
- Education safeguarding leads and senior leaders
- Early years, primary, secondary, special, faith based, and independent schools
- Further education and higher education institutions
- Alternative provision
- Partnership Education Officer
- Assistant Director for Education
- Virtual School Head/Deputy Head
- School Improvement Lead
- Local authority education services
- Partnership business support (agenda, minutes, co-ordination of meetings)

Member Roles & Responsibilities

- Attend and actively participate in subgroup meetings.
- Share relevant information and insights from member's respective establishments.
- Disseminate key messages and learning from the subgroup to their networks.
- Contribute to the development of safeguarding resources and guidance.
- Support the implementation of safeguarding initiatives within education.

Governance & Reporting

- The subgroup will report to the partnership executive committee.
- Minutes and action points will be recorded and shared with members.
- The subgroup will contribute to the partnership's annual report and strategic priorities.

Frequency of Meetings
The subgroup will meet termly, with additional meetings scheduled as required.

Review
These Terms of Reference will be reviewed annually to ensure they remain relevant and effective.
