

# Child Safeguarding Statement



The Bridge Academy

Our organisation has completed a CHSCP Self-Assessment.



## Nature / Type of Organisation and Services Provided:

Secondary Academy. Mixed, 11-19 education provider.

## Our commitment to safeguarding children:

The Bridge Academy is fully aware of, and committed to, its safeguarding responsibilities. Safeguarding is the responsibility of every member of staff. The Bridge Academy will ensure that all staff know this and that they are able to identify children and young people where concerns about their safety and welfare arise. We will ensure all staff and pupils know they can raise issues with any member of staff and that their experiences and concerns will be taken seriously.

We are aware that some pupils may not feel confident to disclose concerns verbally and therefore staff will maintain professional curiosity to support them.

There will always be a Designated Safeguarding Lead (or Deputy DSL) on site or available by phone and they will have appropriate training and understanding of how to manage concerns in an effective way with the welfare of children and young people as their primary focus.

### Risk that children might face (1)

Mental Health concerns - huge rise in self-harm and suicide ideation

### How are we mitigating this risk? (1)

Staff training for warning signs  
Clear escalation process for concerns  
Dedicated member of staff responsible for Mental Health  
Detailed Mental Health policy  
School culture built around protective practices  
The ARC - in house restorative alternative to suspension  
Place2Be for KS3  
In house counselling team for KS4 & 5

### Risk that children might face (2)

Extra-familial risk/exploitation outside the academy

### How are we mitigating this risk? (2)

Offer a realistic alternative through a highly aspirational school culture and the best possible education  
Staff trained on the warning signs of exploitation  
Exploitation and support available addressed through PSHE  
Fortnightly 'Inclusion Panel Meetings' (IPMs)  
Close working relationship with a variety of services  
Close working relationship with the SSO

### Risk that children might face (3)

Social Media making it easier for adults to target young people

### How are we mitigating this risk? (3)

Zero tolerance on phones in school  
Staff trained on being vigilant to the risks of social media  
Social Media risks and avenues of support addressed through PSHE  
Fortnightly 'Inclusion Panel Meetings' (IPMs)  
Close working relationship with a variety of services  
Close working relationship with the SSO

### Risk that children might face (4)

Long term absence

### How are we mitigating this risk? (4)

Dedicated attendance and medical officer and 2i/c  
Robust attendance procedures, including first day calling  
Home visits for vulnerable students  
Fortnightly IPMs  
Whole academy focus on attendance

### Risk that children might face (5)

Gang affiliation outside the academy

### How are we mitigating this risk? (5)

Offer a realistic alternative through a highly aspirational school culture and the best possible education  
Staff trained on the warning signs of gang involvement  
Gangs as an issue addressed through PSHE  
Fortnightly 'Inclusion Panel Meetings' (IPMs), chaired by the DSL,  
Close working relationship with a variety of services, including the SSO

**The following legislation, policies, procedures and guidance also support and inform our intention to safeguard children while they are accessing our service(s). These documents are available upon request.**

The Bridge Academy Safeguarding Policy  
The Bridge Academy E-Safety policy  
Keeping Children Safe in Education  
The Bridge Academy Whistle-blowing policy  
The Bridge Academy Mental Health Policy

The final draft of this safeguarding statement has been agreed for submission by the individual with overall responsibility for the organisation. This Child Safeguarding Statement will be reviewed annually, or as soon as practicable after there has been a material change in any matter to which the statement refers.

Please confirm



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Procedures are available to the public here:

<https://www.bridgeacademy.hackney.sch.uk/>