**NEWTON COLLEGE SAFEGUARDING POLICY**

# definitions

## Safeguarding

Safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children refers to the processes of protecting students from harm, preventing the impairment of their health and development, ensuring that we seek to improve the general health and well-being of all students in our care and enabling every student to have the optimum life chances and enter adulthood successfully.

## Child Protection

Child Protection is the core element of safeguarding and is defined as the responsibility to protect children who are suffering or likely to suffer from harm as a result of abuse or neglect.

The policy set out the principles and expectations, as well as the procedures and processes, which must be adopted at Newton College. The policy also describes the steps that are taken in meeting our commitment to safeguarding students.

Given our international context Newton College recognises and accepts its responsibility to safeguard all students under the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (1989). Newton College recognises the obligation to protect our students from harm and in particular, the obligation on schools under the Articles of the UN convention. All the UN articles can be found at the following link: [**http://www.unicef.org/crc/files/Rights\_overview.pdf**](http://www.unicef.org/crc/files/Rights_overview.pdf)

## Designated Safeguarding Lead (or Deputy) in a school

In **Newton College** the Designated Safeguarding Lead(s) is **Maravillas Amorós y Amparo Miñana** and they can be contacted on [m.amoros@laudenewtoncollege.com](mailto:m.amoros@laudenewtoncollege.com) [a.minana@laudenewtoncollege.com](mailto:a.minana@laudenewtoncollege.com) . **Their office is in the main building of the school**

## All staff will:

* Ensure they are familiar with and follow the policy and all other safeguarding related documents e.g. Codes of Conduct, guidance for safe working practice.
* Be alert to signs and indicators of possible abuse.
* Listen to and take seriously the views and concerns of children.
* Record any concerns and report these to the Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL).
* Follow the procedures outlined in this document when/if concerned about any child.
* Support students, staff or other adults who have concerns, or who are the subject of concerns, to act appropriately and effectively in instigating or cooperating with any subsequent process of investigation.
* Undertake appropriate child protection/safeguarding and safe recruitment training (and refresher training as required by ISP).
* All staff and volunteers need to recognise that if their behaviour inside or outside the workplace breaches the ISP code of conduct and/or the guidance for safe working practice, this may be considered a disciplinary or even criminal matter.

# forms of abuse

There are a significant number of ways that students may be exposed to risk and danger. All require a response. Abuse is defined as any form of maltreatment of a child. This can manifest itself as direct harm to a child, or by a failure to take action to protect a child who is at risk of, or already suffering harm.

# Specific Safeguarding Issues

## E safety

The growth in electronic media in everyday life and an ever-developing variety of devices create additional risks for children. Risks and dangers of being online include:

* Inappropriate content.
* Ignoring age restrictions and communicating with unknown adults or other children (which make children vulnerable to bullying and grooming).
* Grooming and sexual abuse.
* Sharing personal information.
* Gambling or running up debts.
* Cyber Bullying.

## Mobile phone and Camera Images

It is our policy that practitioners, teachers and visitors to our Early Years settings should not use personal mobile phones to take images of children. In our primary and secondary schools, if personal equipment is used to capture child images, these images should be uploaded to the schools’ system as soon as possible and immediately deleted from personal equipment.

## Allegations against staff and volunteers

An allegation can be made against a staff member or volunteer at any point. It is important that any such allegations are treated seriously and appropriate procedures followed. An allegation is different to a complaint and can be defined as follows:

* Where someone has behaved in a way that has harmed or may have harmed a child.
* Where someone has possibly committed a criminal offence against a child.
* Where someone has behaved in a way towards a child or children that would pose a risk to children.

## Whistleblowing

We cannot expect children to raise concerns in an environment where adults fail to do so. All staff and volunteers should be aware of their duty to raise concerns about the actions or attitude of colleagues.

## Anti-Bullying

Bullying is a safeguarding matter and if left unresolved can become a more serious child protection issue. Staff at every level will take seriously any concerns raised in relation to the bullying of any student

## Children with Special Educational Needs or Disabilities

All staff should recognise that children with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities can mean additional safeguarding challenges. Depending on the nature of a child’s special need or disability, additional barriers can exist which make it more difficult to identify and recognise signs of abuse.

## Allegations made by a child about another child (Peer on peer abuse)

Where an allegation is made that one child may have abused another, this will always be taken seriously and dealt with as a safeguarding matter. Peer on peer abuse can take many forms, and gender issues can be prevalent when dealing with this type of abuse.

# Procedures

## Adults concerned about a Student

If staff suspect that any student in their care may be a victim of abuse, or is at risk of abuse or other form of harm, they should not try to investigate, and inform the Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) about their concerns as soon as possible.

**The following guidance is based on five key practices for all staff:**

* **Receive**
* **Reassure**
* **React**
* **Report**
* **Record**

Where a child has made a disclosure and alleges abuse, the Designated Safeguarding Lead (or Head Teacher in the absence of the DSL), should be informed as soon as possible. The Designated Safeguarding Lead will collate any available evidence by ensuring the notes taken from any witnesses are made available to any investigating body. The Designated Safeguarding Lead will then consider and where necessary, consult on the information available. It is the role of the Designated Safeguarding Lead to make decisions about what action to take next and to make the decision whether to take the matter further within the local legal framework. It is important that a full record of all the information and decisions made are recorded and stored confidentially.