




Safeguarding & Child Protection Policy

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Policy Version	V1
Approval Date	Sep22
Review Date	Sep24
Review Interval	2 years

Signed	
Signed Date	05/09/2022

SAFEGUARDING & CHILD PROTECTION POLICY

All parents are asked to read this document carefully prior to enrolment. The purpose of this is to keep each child safe while they are at our centre.

INTRODUCTION

We aim to keep children safe by adopting the highest possible standards and taking all reasonable steps to protect children from harm.

Safeguarding is about more than child protection. Child Protection is specifically about protecting children and young people from suspected abuse and neglect. Safeguarding is much wider than child protection. It includes everything an organization can do to keep children and young people safe, including minimizing the risk of harm and accidents and taking action to tackle safety concerns.

The purpose of this Safeguarding Policy is to set a clear protocol of action and a framework for our responsibilities and legal duties in relation to each child's welfare. The hope is to ensure a reliable and effective response in the event of any concern for a child's welfare, and to support each child and each family.

We aim to always put children's needs first. We hope to encourage children to be confident and assertive. We aim to develop a trusting and respectful relationship with the children in our care, so that they know they will be listened to and believed.

This Policy complies with all relevant legislation and other guidance or advice from the Local Safeguarding Children Board's website.

Where there is a safeguarding concern, Beyond Horizons Tuition encourages governing bodies, proprietors and school or college leaders to take the child's wishes, feelings and point of view into account when determining what action to take and what services to provide. Beyond Horizons Tuition adheres to Keeping Children Safe in Education (September 2022) and this document is key to our safeguarding approach for all staff.

Beyond Horizons Tuition recognises the responsibilities of all staff in the centre to safeguard children. All staff, including volunteers and students and service providers, have an active part protecting children from harm.

The aims of this policy are:

- To support the child's development in ways that will foster security, confidence, and independence.

- To raise awareness of staff of the need to safeguard children and their responsibilities in identifying and reporting possible abuse.
- To provide systematic means of monitoring children known to be at risk of harm.
- To emphasise the need for good levels of communication between members of staff and between staff and parents.
- To ensure that all staff who have access to children are suitable to do so and have a valid satisfactory DBS check.

Definitions of Abuse

It is important to be aware that many of the forms of abuse can take place either online or in person.

Physical Abuse: physical injury to a child where there is knowledge, or a reasonable suspicion, that their injury was inflicted or knowingly not prevented.

Neglect: the persistent or severe neglect of a child that results in serious impairment of the child's health or development (both physical and mental).

Emotional Abuse: the persistent or severe emotional ill-treatment of a child which has severe adverse effects on the behaviour and emotional development of that child. This may involve serious bullying (including cyberbullying).

Sexual Abuse: the involvement of dependent, developmentally immature children and adolescents in sexual activities they do not truly comprehend, to which they are unable to give informed consent. Sexual abuse can take place online, and technology can be used to facilitate offline abuse.

Grooming: When someone builds an emotional connection with a child or a young person to gain their trust for the purposes of sexual abuse or exploitation.

Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) and Child Criminal Exploitation (CCE): Where an individual or group uses an imbalance of power to coerce, manipulate or deceive a child into sexual or criminal activity. In some cases, this is in exchange for something the victim wants and may benefit the perpetrator or facilitator (e.g. financially or through increased status).

Self Abuse: Any means by which a child or young person seeks to harm themselves. This can take lots of physical forms, including cutting, bruising, scratching, hair-pulling, poisoning, overdosing and eating disorders.

Peer on peer abuse: Abuse of a child by another child. Examples of this include bullying, physical abuse, sexual violence or harassment, upskirting (taking a picture under another person's clothing without consent), sexting and initiation/hazing violence and rituals.

Mental Health Concerns: All staff should also be aware that mental health problems can, in some cases, be an indicator that a child has suffered or is at risk of suffering abuse, neglect or exploitation. If staff have a mental health concern about a child that is also a safeguarding concern, immediate action should be taken, by following this child protection policy and speaking to the designated safeguarding lead or a deputy.

RESPONSIBILITIES

There are many areas of responsibility in terms of safeguarding children. Beyond Horizons Tuition staff and tutors carry a range of responsibilities illustrated under the following headings:

Training: As professionals, we ensure that our knowledge is up to date so that we can recognise indicators of abuse and respond appropriately.

Child Protection: If any professional becomes concerned that a child might be at risk of abuse, it is our **legal duty** to pass on our concerns to the appropriate authorities who can assess what action, if any, is in the best interest of the child. We will inform parent/guardian when we have done this, except in cases where this could put the child at greater risk.

Allegations: We have a legal duty to contact **Ofsted** if an allegation of abuse is made against any member of staff, or against anyone employed (whether paid or unpaid). We will inform the Local Authority Designated Officer (L.A.D.O.) when an allegation is made.

Good Communication: We aim to build a good relationship with parents and tutors to ensure that we can provide a good continuity of care between the child's home and our care. We also endeavour to work with the family to protect their children.

Confidentiality: We maintain appropriate boundaries regarding confidential information regarding your child. However, we cannot keep any information to ourselves if we believe that someone maybe at risk of harm - and may need to inform another authority.

Registration Requirements: We have made the setting safe for children, according to the requirement set out by **Ofsted**.

Accident/Injury Book: If your child develops any health problem or suffer an injury during the time that s/he is at our centre, we will keep a record of the event and inform you about it upon collection of your child, or immediately by phone, in the event of an emergency. We will both log, sign, and date the incident. In an emergency, we have a duty of care to act *in loco parentis* and will ensure that your child receives necessary emergency police, medical social or emotional care they require.

Police Check: All members of staff, tutors, including frequent visitors, have a recent and clean enhanced *Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS)* checks - this is required for any professionals who work with children. In the case where a DBS check has not been obtained, the person shall be escorted whilst on site.

Photography: Taking and displaying pictures of children involved in study tasks can be affirming and validating. We will seek written permission prior to photographing or filming children in our care and will state the precise circumstances in which they will be photographed and filmed.

Intimate Care: We will agree the nature and frequency of the intimate care that your child receives in our care prior to your child remaining in our care. Examples of intimate care include going to the toilet. We always aim to encourage children to strive for greater independence.

PROCEDURES

In all cases related to child protection and safeguarding, the main procedure is to treat the allegation seriously, in strict confidence and immediately contact the Beyond Horizons Tuition Designated Safeguarding Officers and/or allocated child protection and safeguarding lead/s (**Usama Malik**).

In the event of Al- Bashir Academy's Designated Safeguarding Officers being contacted the following protocol will be followed:

1. The information will immediately be passed on to the Academy's child protection and safeguarding lead/s.
2. The academy shall follow the academy's procedure for contacting the local Police Child Protection Unit or the Social Services Department of the relevant Local Authority (the Authorities). Beyond Horizons Tuition shall support the academy with any action that the academy deems appropriate and shall undertake reasonable endeavours to provide the school with any assistance or documents.

3. Beyond Horizons Tuition shall not, under any circumstances, undertake any independent investigation or questioning (as this may jeopardise any enquiry) unless or until Beyond Horizons Tuition is given authorisation by the Authorities. Following authorisation, Beyond Horizons Tuition may independently follow up on the allegation.

4. All allegations or suspicions shall be referred to the academy no matter how insignificant they seem to be or when they occur. Any information about suspicious behaviour or circumstances will be passed to the local Police Child Protection Unit or the local Social Services with immediate effect.

SUPPORTING CHILDREN

We recognise that a child who is abused or witnesses violence may find it difficult to develop and maintain a sense of self-worth. We recognise that a child in these circumstances may feel helpless and humiliated and may feel self-blame.

We recognise that the setting may provide the only stability in the life of a child who is being abused or is at risk from harm.

We accept the behaviour of a child in these circumstances may range from that which is perceived to be normal and may be particularly aggressive or withdrawn.

The centre will support children and their families by:

- Encouraging self-esteem and self-assertiveness whilst not condoning aggression or bullying.
- Promoting a caring, safe, and positive environment within the setting.
- Liaising and working together with all other support services and those agencies involved in the safeguarding of children.
- Providing continuing and planned support for a child about whom there are concerns.

PREVENTION

Beyond Horizons Tuition recognises that all its settings play a part in the prevention of harm to children. We foster an ethos of support in all settings by providing children with clear lines of communication that ensure they feel cared for, secure and listened to.

Beyond Horizons Tuition will:

- Establish and maintain an ethos where children feel secure and are encouraged to talk and are always listened to.
- Ensure that all children develop a good relationship with their tutors.
- Maintain close partnerships with parents.

COMPLAINTS

Students who believe they have suffered any form of harm, neglect or abuse are entitled to raise the matter by contacting complaints@bhtuition.co.uk. Every effort will be made to ensure that any person making a complaint will not be victimised. All complaints of safeguarding will be dealt with promptly and confidentially.

IMPORTANT CONTACTS FOR SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN (BELOW)

IMPORTANT CONTACTS FOR SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN	
Organisation	Contact details
Named senior member of Beyond Horizons Tuition staff	Usama Malik 07487879898

IMPORTANT CONTACTS FOR SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN

Organisation	Contact details
Ofsted	0300 123 4234 enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk
Local Authority Designated Officer (L.A.D.O.)	0113 37 89687 lado@leeds.gov.uk
NSPCC	24 Hour helpline 0808 800 5000 (For confidential advice)
Independent Safeguarding Authority	0300 123 1111 www.isa-gov.org.uk
Leeds Safeguarding Children Board	Leeds Safeguarding Children Board Merrion House 110 Merrion Street Leeds LS2 8BB Dr Mark A Peel mark.peel@leeds.gov.uk 0113 3786018 lscp.info@leeds.gov.uk