**Lode Heath School**

| Name of Policy | Safeguarding Policy |
|---|---|
| Lead | Mr J Hatton |
| Governor Committee | BSII Committee |
| Date Last Reviewed | October 2025 |
| Review Frequency | Annual |
| Annual Review Date | Autumn 2026 |

# Contents

## Key contacts

| | Name | Contact details |
|---|---|---|
| Associate Headteacher | Laura Suddon | All can be contacted at Lode Heath School:<br><br>0121 704 1421<br>**office@lodeheath.org.uk** |
| Designated safeguarding lead (DSL) | Jeremy Hatton | |
| Deputy designated Safeguarding leads | Amer Mohammed<br>Kelly Pearce<br>Gurpreet Soomal<br>Sarah Hopwood<br>David Martin<br>Jayne Carter<br>Sharon Jukes<br>Rebecca Thompson<br>Nik Hayfield | |
| Safeguarding governor | Glen Bate | |
| Designated teacher for looked after and previously looked after children | Amer Mohammed | |

**Child-focused approach to safeguarding**

Introduction

The purpose of this policy statement is:

- to protect children and young people who attend Lode Heath School from harm;
- to provide staff and volunteers, as well as children and young people and their families, with the overarching principles that guide our approach to safeguarding.

This policy applies to everyone.

Policy context

This policy is derived from a variety of legislative provisions and statutory guidance. In particular, it is based upon the requirements and best practice outlined in:

- Keeping Children Safe in Education 2025 (KCSIE)

- Working Together to Safeguard Children 2023 (WTSC)

- Ofsted: Education Inspection Framework' 2025 (November)

- Framework for the Assessment of Children in Need and their Families 2000

- Solihull MBC Safeguarding Children Procedures

- Early Years and Foundation Stage Framework 2023 (EYFS)

- Digital and technology standards for schools and colleges 2023

Section 157 of the Education Act 2002 requires school governing bodies, local education authorities and further education institutions to make arrangements to safeguard and promote the welfare of all children who are pupils at a school, or who are students under 18 years of age. Such arrangements will have to have regard to any guidance issued by the Secretary of State.

The duties for all academies – including all free schools and independent schools – to safeguard and promote the welfare of pupils at the school/college is set down in Part 3 of the schedule to The Independent School Standards (2019).

Lode Heath School's policy reflects these duties and complies with our funding agreement and articles of association.

Safeguarding statement

Lode Heath School recognise our statutory responsibility to safeguard and promote the welfare of all children. Safeguarding is everybody's responsibility and all those directly connected (staff, volunteers, governors, leaders, parents, families, and learners) are an important part of the wider safeguarding system for children and have an essential role to play in making this community safe and secure.

Lode Heath School believe that the best interests of children always come first. All children (defined as those up to the age of 18) have a right to be heard and to have their wishes and feelings taken into account and all children regardless of age, gender, ability, culture, race, language, religion or sexual identity, have equal rights to protection.

Lode Heath School recognises the importance of providing an ethos and environment within school that will help children to be safe and to feel safe; inside and out of school, as well as online. In our school, children are respected and are encouraged to talk openly. We will ensure children's wishes and feelings are taken into account when determining what safeguarding action to take and what services to provide.

Our core safeguarding principles are:

**'It could happen here'**: staff and volunteers are asked to show professional curiosity when reviewing any potential safeguarding concerns. Sharing information with the DSL or DDSLs where appropriate

**Prevention**: positive, supportive, safe culture, curriculum and pastoral opportunities for children, safer recruitment procedures.

**Protection**: following the agreed procedures, ensuring all staff are trained and supported to recognise and respond appropriately and sensitively to safeguarding concerns.

**Support**: for all learners, parents and staff, and where appropriate specific interventions are required for those who may be at risk of harm.

**Working with parents and other agencies**: to ensure timely, appropriate communications and actions are undertaken when safeguarding concerns arise.

Safeguarding policies and procedures

We have a number of policies and procedures in place that contribute to our safeguarding commitment, including our child protection policy which can be viewed in the policies section on our website.

NB: this is not an exhaustive list

| Policies, procedures and requirements | Where you will find the policy/procedure |
|---|---|
| Child protection  (including online safety, low level concerns policy and child-on-child abuse as required by KCSiE 2025)* as well as:<br><br>• Looked after and previously looked after children – designated teacher<br>• The use of physical intervention | In the 'Policies' section of our website using this link<br><br>**Policies \| Lode Heath School** |
| Equality information and objectives | |
| Relationships and sex education | |
| Drug and alcohol education/managing substance related incidents | |
| Complaints Policy | |
| Special educational needs and disabilities<br><br>• SEND policy<br>• SEND information report | |
| Accessibility policy | |
| Premises management documents<br><br>• Operational Risk Assessment | |
| The administration of medicine and first aid | |
| Online Safety | |
| Attendance | |
| Behaviour | |

| | |
|---|---|
| Exclusions & Suspensions Policy | |
| Anti-bullying | |
| Supporting children with health needs who cannot attend school | |
| Pupil premium statement | **Pupil Premium \| Lode Heath School** |
| GDPR including:<br><br>• Data protection and information sharing<br>• Protection of biometric information<br>• Privacy notices<br>• Subject Access Request Policy | **GDPR \| Lode Heath School** |
| Staff/ employee specific policies<br><br>• Disciplinary<br>• Grievance<br>• Managing Allegations (against employees)<br>• Whistleblowing<br>• Confidentiality | **Policies and Procedures » Arden Multi-Academy Trust (ardenmat.org.uk)** |
| Health and safety | **Policies and Procedures » Arden Multi-Academy Trust (ardenmat.org.uk)** |