

## Child Protection Policy

Our child protection policy is to ensure that every candidate who registers with Trust Education is fully aware of the procedures for protecting children. At Trust, the well-being of children is always our priority.

We have clear policies and procedures to adhere to the law, as defined in the Children Act 1989 (and any subsequent amendments). All our candidates are sent “Working Together Under the Children Act 1989” and the latest Keeping Children Safe in Education to read at registration.

Trust Education would like to highlight the position outlined in the 1996 Education Act (Section 548) that any form of physical contact with a child in the form of corporal punishment is prohibited.

*Definition: There are 4 categories of abuse recognised by the 1989 Children Act: Physical Abuse, Sexual Abuse, Emotional Abuse and Neglect*

- *Section 47 of the Children Act 1989 states that a local authority has a duty to investigate when there is “reasonable cause to suspect a child who lives, or is found, in their area as suffering, or is likely to suffer, significant harm.” It must make such enquiries as it considers necessary in order to decide whether any action is needed to safeguard or promote the child’s welfare.*
- *Section 47 (9) states that “Where a local authority are conducting enquiries under this section, it shall be the duty of any person...to assist them with these enquiries...if called upon by the local authority to do so.*

*In view of their daily contact with children, candidates working through Trust Education are well placed to observe abuse or neglect. It is their responsibility to report suspected alleged abuse.*

- *If a candidate is working within a school, it is his/her duty to take note not only of major incidents, but also of signals which give cause for suspicion or concern. When this occurs, the candidate must report any concerns to the schools designated member of staff with responsibility for child protection work and liaison with youth services. It is also the candidate’s responsibility to adhere to the specific guidelines set out in each schools Child Protection Policy.*
- *If a candidate is working outside of the school environment (for example home tuition) it is his/her duty to report any concerns to the Social Service Department. Candidates have a responsibility of explaining on first contact that they cannot keep information confidential. If abuse is suspected the concern should be recorded, then discussed with a company Director and reported to Social Services. If a candidate has reason to believe that a young person is being abused the safety and welfare of that child must be the paramount consideration in deciding what action needs to be taken.*

Should there be an allegation of abuse made against a candidate it should be reported immediately to the designated Safeguarding lead at Trust Education by emailing [directors@trust-education.co.uk](mailto:directors@trust-education.co.uk). Action will be taken in accordance with the Trust Education disciplinary procedure and the local authority childcare procedures.

**Remember! You should never intervene on your own.**

Trust Education require all staff on our register to be fully aware of the procedures for child protection. Should you require any more information relating to any aspect of the above; please ask your consultant to explain in more detail.