



# Safeguarding Statement

## What is safeguarding and why do we do it?

Safeguarding is any action taken to protect children (those under 18), and adults (those aged 18 or over) at risk (as defined in the Care Act 2014) from harm, whilst supporting their wellbeing and welfare. We will always safeguard the people we have contact with. Safeguarding is something that we take seriously because we believe in supporting the wellbeing of others as well as their education.

This policy has been drawn up on the basis of legislation, policy and guidance that seeks to protect children in United Kingdom. However, it is understood and intended that this policy will apply to our employees, agents, contractors and other connected parties wherever they work across the world. In this event, we expect the policy to be followed to the fullest extent permissible in any given jurisdiction, with the intention of safeguarding children and young people. Where we operate within or outside of the UK we undertake to:

- ◆ Comply with local laws, regulations, instructions from law enforcement agencies, rulings by any legitimate judicial authority or similar;
- ◆ Refer any matters of criminal conduct, especially in relation to safeguarding, (as applicable in the local jurisdiction) to the local authorities responsible for policing and law enforcement;
- ◆ Wherever local legislation permits, or is ambiguous or indifferent (for example, but not limited to, activity in disputed territories, activities ongoing during a change of government or political structure and activities taking place when local legislation is amended, added to or repealed), we undertake to follow this guidance to the fullest extent possible in order to safeguard children and adults at risk (according to the broadest definition applied by either local or UK legislation)

## How do we safeguard children and adults at risk?

TeacherTutor.org stays up to date with safeguarding laws and guidance. Our team have criminal background checks - enhanced DBS checks, have many years experience working within school settings and have up to date safeguarding training. We guide tutors we work with to obtain enhanced DBS checks, engage with safeguarding training and resources, and know how to report any concerns they or clients (parents) may have.

## Who might we contact about concerns?

If we have genuine concerns for the safety or welfare of a child or adult at risk we may need to seek advice on how to best support them, which could mean contacting other official services (e.g. the police or local authority safeguarding teams). We cannot promise to keep anything a secret when it concerns safety, but only because we care about the wellbeing of others.



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## Tutors with concerns

Whilst we can not be 100% sure that something is or is not taking place, it is not a tutors place to investigate. The role of those working with children (Tutors with a profile on TeacherTutor.org) is to be aware of the signs that welfare may be at risk and to report those concerns to those with the authority and experience in doing so - such as the Local Children's Safeguarding Partnership or the police. In this way, we safeguard children and allow any investigations to be done through the proper channels. Tutors can also access guidance through the NSPCC helpline on 0808 800 5000 (Mon-Fri, 10am-4pm). If the person they are concerned about lives abroad, they should try to contact the local authorities where that person lives as this is where the concern will need to be dealt with.

## Parents/Carers with concerns

Where a client/parent has concerns about a tutor they have been introduced to through TeacherTutor.org, they should report these concerns to the police or their Local Children's safeguarding Partnership in the authority where they live. Parents can also access guidance through the **NSPCC helpline on 0808 800 5000 (Mon-Fri, 10am-4pm)**. If the person they are concerned about lives abroad, they should try to contact the local authorities where that person lives as this is where the concern will need to be dealt with.

## Reports made to TeacherTutor.org

Where safeguarding concerns are raised with TeacherTutor.org by either clients/parents or tutors, we will advise immediate contact to authorities to investigate - for example, the LADO via the Local Children's Safeguarding Partnership (LCSP), or the Police - and Advice on this will be taken from the LCSP or other authorities who have been notified. We will suspend the account of any tutor where we are aware of a safeguarding concern until we hear from the relevant authorities that there are no safeguarding concerns in relation to the tutor.

Any allegations proven to be truthful will lead to disciplinary action or dismissal - dependant on the nature of the allegation and any historical incidents. Again, advice will be sought from the relevant authorities. Any truthful allegations may be passed on to future employers seeking a reference.

Any allegations proven to be false will remain on a record but the outcome of any and all independent investigations will be included with it.

It is important that any and all allegations are taken seriously and investigated fully by the appropriate authorities. This ensures that we uphold our duty to safeguard children. It also helps to ensure that any false allegations are investigated and the truth can come out - clearing the name of the person concerned.

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This guidance follows [Keeping children safe in education - GOV.UK](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/61222/Keeping_children_safe_in_education.pdf)