



Date: September 2024

Dear Colleague

I am sure you are aware of the Keeping Children Safe in Education (KCSIE) regulations that came into being in September 2018 and which are updated annually. Mainstream schools retain responsibility for the safeguarding of pupils placed by them in alternative provision but what has been made explicit is that schools need to be satisfied that alternative providers meet pupil need and that appropriate safeguarding checks have been carried out on individuals working in the establishment of alternative providers. This is to replicate the checks that schools undertake in respect of their own staff so as to ensure that safeguarding is consistent across educational providers.

I confirm that Bridge Academy and Milton Keynes Primary Pupil Referral Unit comply fully with the Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) Code of Practice and Safer Recruitment requirements. This includes the following which all staff are subject to:

- Right to work in the UK check
- Identity check
- Employment reference – minimum two employer references covering the most recent or current employer and the most recent school-based employer where appropriate
- Satisfactory enhanced DBS check
- Barred list check
- Prohibition checks for any staff employed to carry out teaching work
- S128 check for management positions
- Further checks on individuals who have lived or worked abroad
- Social Media checks

Recruitment of staff follows current Keeping Children Safe in Education (KCSIE) guidelines in respect of ensuring that safeguarding risks are minimised to the greatest extent that is possible.

All our staff receive annual safeguarding training and are Team Teach trained.

Where safeguarding concerns come to light, all establishments use CPOMS to record all concerns and have a DSL and DDSL.

Given that schools retain responsibility for the safeguarding of pupils whilst they attend Bridge Academy and MK Primary PRU, I think it is important that I briefly outline for you how we support you in ensuring that processes in respect of safeguarding between ourselves are suitably robust.

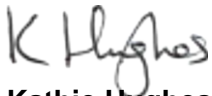
1. All our staff undertake mandatory Level 1 and Level 2 safeguarding training. This is a condition of employment and is updated annually. Each site has a Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) and Deputy DSL who undertake appropriate training on an annual basis. Currently, Bridge Academy operates from two sites, Coffee Hall which supports Key Stage 3 and 4 pupils and Manor Road

which supports post 16 pupils and Bridge West which supports young people aged 11-16 with medical and emotional needs. Milton Keynes Primary PRU is also located on the Manor Road site and supports pupils aged 5-11.

2. The DSL at each site is:
Coffee Hall – Bev Wise bev.wise@bridgeacademy.org.uk
Manor Road – Bev Wise bev.wise@bridgeacademy.org.uk
MK Primary PRU – Tyrone West tyrone.west@mkprimarypru.co.uk
3. If any safeguarding concerns arise, we will inform the DSL in your school of that concern via secure email using the CPOMs system. We have several DDSLs on each site.
4. Weekly attendance registers are provided to schools for your pupils and where there are concerns about children missing education we will flag these up to you immediately if there is a concern.
5. Academic outcomes at the end of Key Stage 4 are shared with schools for their pupils as are termly progress reports for all pupils.
6. All staff employed by the Stephenson (MK) Trust are Team Teach trained and update their training biennially. This is a condition of employment.

Finally, I would note that all Academies within the Stephenson (MK) Trust and at MK Primary PRU are fully compliant in respect of current KSCIE regulations both in terms of practice and process (please see Child Protection Policy www.bridgeacademy.org.uk or www.primarypru.co.uk). This is monitored by Governors and Trustees as well as Ofsted.

Yours sincerely



Kathie Hughes
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Stephenson (MK) Trust
Partnership Officer, Milton Keynes Secondary and Primary Inclusion Partnership