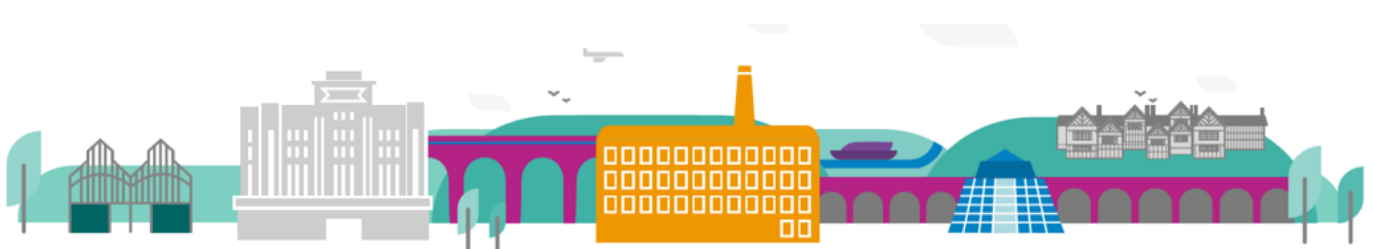




# STOCKPORT CONTINUING EDUCATION SERVICE

## Safeguarding Policy Statement 2023-2024

<b>Produced by:</b>	Stockport Continuing Education Service Services to Place Directorate
<b>Date approved and agreed</b>	01/09/2023



# SAFEGUARDING INFORMATION FOR ALL STAFF

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Continuing Education Service is part of Stockport Metropolitan Borough Council and operates under the Councils Safeguarding Adults at Risk and Safeguarding Children's Policies; this includes the Councils Prevent Policy. However, to ensure learners have access to the right support at the right time, the Service has its own DSL (Designated Safeguarding Lead) and DDSL (Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead). Therefore, this policy statement is to be used in conjunction with the council's Safeguarding Adults At Risk, Safeguarding Children and Prevent Policy.

Whilst Continuing Education Service is a post 19 Adult Education provider, many of our learners and staff are parents and/or carers, have family or friends that have *children (a child is anyone under the age of 18)*. Therefore, all staff need to be vigilant, they need to be active listeners and know how to ask pertinent questions when working with learners (*'what, why, where, when and who' approach*). This means when a safeguarding concern or disclosure occurs, establishing environmental conditions such as who the learner lives with i.e. do they have children under 18 etc. is of great importance. Safeguarding incidents often impact on, or are directed at children, so understanding who potentially is, or are at risk is paramount.

The 'Keeping Children Safe in Education' guidance sets out what schools and colleges in England must do to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and young people under the age of 18.

Updates made in 2023 include:

1. Clarification around the roles and responsibilities of education staff in relation to filtering and monitoring with regards to online safety.
2. Clarification that being absent, as well as missing, from education can be warning sign of a range of safeguarding concerns, including sexual abuse, sexual exploitation, or child criminal exploitation.
3. Informing shortlisted candidates that online searches may be done as part of pre-recruitment checks in line with safer recruitment processes.
4. Information on responding to allegations related to organisations or individuals using school premises.

To ensure these updates have been addressed, the service has:

## **1. ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:**

- Implemented a filtering and monitoring process which is to be reviewed annually or when changes occur.

- Ensured staff receive appropriate online safety training and complete safeguarding and prevent training.

## **2. ABSENT LEARNERS:**

- The Service monitors learner attendance on a daily basis.
- An 'At Risk' referral process allows staff to refer any learner where they have missed 2 sessions or more and/or where they have concerns about a learner welfare or wellbeing. 'At Risk' review meetings are held weekly to discuss each learner and agree appropriate intervention and support strategies to ensure learners are supported and are able to continue in learning.
- Where applicable, learners are referred to relevant agencies for support and where required, the Learner Services Team will contact relevant agencies on the learner's behalf to ensure support is accessible.
- The Service has a learner At Risk Policy and Attendance Policy.
- The council's Safeguarding Policies are applied where individual cases link to safeguarding concerns.

[Safeguarding Adults at Risk \(sharepoint.com\)](#)  
[Policies and Procedures | Safeguarding Children in Stockport](#)  
[Prevent and Channel in Stockport - Stockport Council](#)

## **3. PRE-RECRUITMENT CHECKS:**

- The management team have completed the safer recruitment training safeguarding and safer recruitment in the further education (FE) and training sector.
- The Service applies Stockport Council's recruitment policies and procedures, this includes social media checks prior to interviews.

## **4. RESPONDING TO ALLEGATIONS:**

- The Service follows the council's Whistleblowing Policy: [Policy - Confidential Reporting.docx \(sharepoint.com\)](#), a link is provided in the online staffroom for ease of access.
- A clear Prevent Risk assessment outlines how the service will address online safety, radicalisation and extremism including external guests or site visitors.