

Alice Westbury Coaching Safeguarding Policy

Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) :

Alice Westbury

Contact details: email: alice.westbury@outlook.com

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This policy will act in partnership with the safeguarding policies for the educational establishments I work in and current legislation.

1. Purpose of the policy

The aim of this policy is to safeguard and promote any students' welfare who I work with. I aim to create an honest, open, caring and supportive environment where the child's welfare is of paramount importance.

I recognise the moral and statutory responsibility to safeguard and promote the welfare of all the students I work with and have regular safeguarding training. I am alert to the signs of abuse and neglect and follow procedures to ensure that children receive effective support, protection and justice.

I recognise that I may come into contact with children who are abused or who witness violence and may find it difficult to develop a sense of self-worth and view the world in a positive way. Other children may be vulnerable because, for instance, they have a disability, are in care, or are experiencing some form of neglect. I would seek to provide such children with the necessary support and to build their self-esteem and confidence.

2. Safeguarding Commitment

I will adopt an open and accepting attitude towards children as part of my coaching service responsibility for care. I (and anyone working alongside me) will encourage children and other stakeholders to feel free to talk about any concerns and to see sessions as a safe place when there are difficulties. Children's worries and fears will be taken seriously. Any concerns for their wellbeing and safety will be passed on to designated safeguarding staff, without delay, within the school setting.

I understand that all staff working for or on behalf of Alice Westbury Coaching should adopt the attitude of 'it could happen here' and to 'think beyond the obvious' in order to ensure that safeguarding concerns are immediately followed up. No concern will be regarded as insignificant. The school designated safeguarding lead will be the first port of call where there are any safeguarding concerns or child protection issues. If the school DSL is not available, then concerns will be passed on to the most senior staff member present at the time.

Alice Westbury Coaching will therefore:

- Establish and maintain an ethos where children feel secure and are encouraged to talk and are listened to
- Ensure that children know that there are adults in the setting whom they can approach if they are worried or are in difficulty
- Include in the content of sessions and workshops activities and opportunities which equip children with the skills they need to stay safe from abuse (including online) and to know where to get help
- Ensure every effort is made to establish effective working relationships with parents/carers/members of school staff and colleagues from other agencies
- Ensure all staff carry an enhanced DBS criminal record and barred list, which is shared with the school prior to contact with any children
- Liaise with designated safeguarding leads and ensure that the school's safeguarding procedures are followed where necessary
- Record and document any evidence, where there are concerns, rather than rely on memory to relay details, in order to ensure thorough protection for the child
- Make sure any records made will largely use the child's words where possible and will be dated and signed. Records will be passed on to the designated school safeguarding lead and stored as outlined in school's safeguarding policy
- Ensure that any concerns will be logged using the school's specific proforma, once the DSL has been notified
- Guarantee that all employees have up to date and regular safeguarding training
- Always ask about safeguarding procedures when first meeting with school staff

As an outside agency providing intervention for students, Alice Westbury Coaching recognises its safeguarding responsibility for students and will always ask schools about their safeguarding policy during initial contact.

When working privately with children / teenagers Alice Westbury Coaching will share this safeguarding policy during initial contact with parents/ carers.

If, when working privately with children / teenagers, there were safeguarding issues involving the parents/ carers or other family members, Alice Westbury Coaching would have the duty to pass concerns on to the police.