



Safeguarding Policy Statement

Objective

To contribute to the personal safety of all children and young people attending St. Matthew's Project activities by promoting child protection awareness, good practice and sound procedures in all aspects of safeguarding.

Policy statement

We at the St. Matthew's Project believe that children and young people have the right to be treated equally and to play and learn in a safe and friendly environment.

A copy of our Safeguarding Policy is available to all parents and guardians on request.

This policy is based on the following principles:

- the welfare of the child/young person is paramount
- all children/young people, whatever their age, culture, disability, gender, language, racial origin, religious beliefs and/or sexual identity, have the right to protection from abuse
- all suspicions and allegations of abuse will be taken seriously and responded to swiftly and appropriately
- staff/volunteers are trained to understand the nature of abuse and to be alert to matters of concern
- all staff/volunteers working for the SMP school have a duty to safeguard children and young people
- all staff/volunteers in at the SMP have a responsibility to report concerns to the designated person with responsibility for child protection at the school, and/or to the school's co-ordinator.

We aim to safeguard children/young people by:

- the development and implementation of safeguarding policies and procedures including: child protection and health & safety policies and guidelines; a code of conduct for staff/volunteers, staff and volunteer procedures; complaints, whistleblowing and equal opportunity policies.
- sharing information about child protection and good practice with children/young people, parents and carers and staff/volunteers
- sharing information about concerns with agencies who need to know, and involving parents and children/young people appropriately
- following carefully the procedures for recruitment and selection of staff/volunteers
- providing effective management for staff/volunteers through support, supervision and training
- involving children, where appropriate, in the development and implementation of safeguarding policies and procedures

- reviewing our policy and good practice regularly.

Lambeth Safeguarding

Safeguarding children, young people and adults at risk means protecting them from abuse or neglect, getting the right support in place as early as possible and creating an environment in which they feel safe and healthy. Each local authority has a duty to do so and Lambeth Council is committed to working with the residents and all organisations in the borough, such as the NHS, family doctors, police, education, the Ambulance service, as well as all care providers and voluntary and community sector organisations and faith groups to achieve this. The Lambeth Safeguarding website provides information and support for professionals, children and adults - <https://www.lambethsaferchildren.org.uk/>

SMP Designated Leads

The following designated people have been nominated by the SMP to refer allegations or suspicions of neglect or abuse to the statutory authorities.

The designated person is: **Lee Dema (Project Manager)**

Contact Number: **07944 101 134**

In the absence of the designated person, the matter should be brought to the attention of the

The second designated person is: **James Alexander (Trustee)**

Contact Number: **07958 274 544**