



Safeguarding & Prevent Policy

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External References:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● CMA Higher Education● Consumer law advice for providers

1. Policy Statement

Watney College is fully committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of all learners, staff, and visitors. We recognise our responsibility to create and maintain a safe, supportive, and inclusive environment, particularly for vulnerable adults and young learners. This policy outlines how safeguarding is embedded in our practices and how concerns will be managed.

2. Scope

This policy applies to:

- All staff, visiting lecturers, and volunteers
- All enrolled students (UK and international)
- Contractors, agency workers, and external service providers
- Learners on placement or work-based learning programmes

3. Key Principles

- Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility.
- The welfare of the learner is paramount.
- All individuals have the right to feel safe and be protected from abuse, neglect, exploitation, or harm.
- Concerns will be acted upon promptly and effectively.
- All concerns will be handled in line with GDPR and confidentiality guidelines.

4. Definitions of Abuse

Types of abuse include:

- Physical abuse
- Emotional or psychological abuse
- Sexual abuse
- Neglect and acts of omission
- Financial or material abuse
- Discriminatory abuse
- Radicalisation and extremism (Prevent Duty)

5. Roles and Responsibilities

Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL):

- Email: Info@watneycollege.co.uk
- Phone 02080046463

Responsible for:

- Leading safeguarding practice at Watney College
- Coordinating responses to safeguarding concerns
- Reporting to external agencies as needed

Deputy DSLs may be appointed for operational coverage.

All Staff and Volunteers are expected to:

- Complete safeguarding training
- Report concerns immediately to the DSL
- Treat all learners with respect and sensitivity
- Promote safe, inclusive learning environments

6. Safe Recruitment

Watney College adheres to safe recruitment practices, including:

- Enhanced DBS checks for all staff in regulated activities
- Reference checks and ID verification
- Safeguarding training as part of staff induction

7. Reporting a Safeguarding Concern

- Immediate concerns should be reported to the DSL or Deputy DSL in person or via the Safeguarding Report Form.
- If a learner is at immediate risk, staff should contact emergency services (999) before informing the DSL.
- All concerns will be documented and acted on confidentially, and appropriate referrals may be made to local safeguarding boards or social services.

8. Prevent Duty

Watney College complies with the Prevent Duty (Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015). We aim to:

- Promote British values
- Identify learners at risk of radicalisation
- Refer concerns to the Channel programme if necessary

9. Online Safety

The college promotes safe and responsible use of technology. Misuse of ICT systems, cyberbullying, and exposure to harmful content are addressed through digital literacy sessions, acceptable use policies, and IT monitoring.

10. Support for Learners

Watney College ensures:

- Access to pastoral support through the Student Support Team
- Counselling referrals where needed
- Safeguarding signposting displayed across the campus and VLE (Klaspad)

11. Training

All staff undergo:

- Annual safeguarding refresher training
- Prevent training
- Induction on safeguarding procedures

Records of training are maintained securely by HR.

12. Monitoring and Review

This policy is reviewed annually or in response to legislative changes. The DSL is responsible for initiating reviews and ensuring compliance.

“End of policy”