

# Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy

## 1. Introduction

At Northstowe Muslims Islamic Classes, we are committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of all our students. We believe that every child has the right to a safe and secure environment, free from harm and abuse. This policy outlines our approach to ensuring the safety and well-being of our students.

## 2. Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to:

- Provide a safe environment for children to learn and develop.
- Ensure staff and volunteers are aware of their responsibilities in identifying and reporting possible cases of abuse or neglect.
- Outline procedures for reporting and managing concerns.

## 3. Scope

This policy applies to all staff, volunteers, parents, and anyone involved in the activities of Northstowe Muslims Islamic Classes.

## 4. Definitions

- **Safeguarding:** Protecting children from maltreatment, preventing impairment of health or development, ensuring safe and effective care, and taking action to enable all children to have the best outcomes.
- **Child Protection:** Part of safeguarding; it refers to activities undertaken to protect children who are suffering or at risk of significant harm.

## 5. Roles and Responsibilities

- **Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL):** A senior staff member responsible for overseeing safeguarding practices, managing concerns, and liaising with external agencies.
- **Staff and Volunteers:** Must be vigilant, complete regular safeguarding training, and report any concerns to the DSL promptly.
- **Governing Body:** Ensures the implementation of effective safeguarding policies and procedures.

## 6. Procedures

- **Recruitment:** Implement safer recruitment practices, including background checks and verification of qualifications.
- **Training:** Provide regular safeguarding training for all staff and volunteers.
- **Reporting Concerns:** Any concerns about a child's welfare should be reported to the DSL immediately.
- **Record Keeping:** Maintain accurate records of concerns, referrals, and any actions taken.

## 7. Types of Abuse

Staff and volunteers should be aware of various forms of abuse, including:

- **Physical Abuse:** Inflicting physical harm.
- **Emotional Abuse:** Causing emotional distress.
- **Sexual Abuse:** Involving a child in sexual activities.
- **Neglect:** Failing to meet a child's basic needs.

## 8. Preventive Measures

- **Curriculum:** Incorporate lessons on personal safety and well-being.
- **Environment:** Ensure the premises are secure and safe for all activities.
- **Online Safety:** Educate students about the risks associated with internet use and establish appropriate online behavior guidelines.

## 9. Confidentiality

All concerns and records are confidential. Information is shared only with relevant personnel and agencies on a need-to-know basis.

## 10. Review

This policy will be reviewed annually to ensure its effectiveness and relevance.

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