



# **Safeguarding Policy**

August 2025

## **1. Statement of Commitment**

At EduShield, safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children is a core priority. In all our work with schools, trusts and other bodies, we operate with a clear expectation that safeguarding is everyone's responsibility and that the best interests of the child are paramount.

This policy outlines how safeguarding concerns will be identified, responded to, and escalated in line with statutory requirements.

## **2. Scope**

This policy applies to all EduShield staff, associates, and partners when delivering services on-site in schools or reviewing safeguarding records and procedures remotely.

It should be read alongside the school's own safeguarding and child protection policy.

## **3. Safer Recruitment and Vetting**

All EduShield staff and representatives who work in or with schools will have:

- An Enhanced DBS check, including Barred List information, prior to undertaking any regulated activity or site visit.
- A verified and recorded safeguarding induction, including familiarisation with this policy and relevant elements of Keeping Children Safe in Education (KCSIE).
- Where we utilise third parties or associate consultants, we will ensure appropriate vetting is in place and share assurances with the receiving school or business.

## **4. Identifying and Responding to Concerns**

### **4.1 Normal Practice**

As part of our standard operating procedures, we will remain vigilant to any indicators of abuse, neglect, or concerns about adult conduct. Safeguarding considerations will be integrated into:

- Policy and compliance reviews
- Audits of the Single Central Record
- Analysis of child protection files

- Observations and discussions with staff during on-site visits or reviews

Where concerns are identified, they will be promptly reported to the school's Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) or deputy.

## **4.2 Escalation**

EduShield reserves the right to escalate concerns beyond the DSL where we are not suitably assured that appropriate action has been taken, or where the response is insufficient to safeguard the welfare of a child.

This may include:

- Direct contact with the Headteacher
- Notifying the Trust Safeguarding Lead
- Making a referral to children's social care or the LADO, in line with statutory guidance
- This right to escalate applies to all safeguarding concerns, including concerns about staff or the wider culture of safeguarding.

## **5. Reviewing Child Protection Files**

When reviewing safeguarding records or child protection files as part of an audit or compliance activity:

- Confidentiality will be upheld at all times
- Files will be viewed in secure conditions, with no personal data removed from the school premises or systems unless contractually and lawfully permitted
- Any concerns, patterns, or missed opportunities to act will be sensitively raised with the DSL and, where appropriate, documented in review feedback

## **6. Concerns About Adults on Site**

If EduShield staff witness or are made aware of any concerning conduct by adults while visiting a school:

- The concern will be reported immediately in line with the school's safeguarding procedures, including allegations procedures
- Where appropriate, the school's Headteacher or DSL will be informed without delay
- If the concern meets the threshold for a safeguarding allegation, we will ensure the matter is escalated appropriately, including through the LADO process where necessary

## **7. Training and Conduct**

All EduShield staff and associates:

- Will complete annual safeguarding and child protection training

- Are required to behave professionally and in accordance with school codes of conduct when on site
- Will respect school safeguarding procedures and follow local instructions for signing in, identification, and confidentiality

## **8. Accountability**

EduShield's safeguarding practice is overseen by the Principal Safeguarding Partner, who acts as the Designated Safeguarding Lead for the organisation and is responsible for:

- Ensuring this policy is kept up to date
- Responding to safeguarding issues arising in the course of our work
- Liaising with schools, partners, and statutory agencies where appropriate

For any safeguarding queries related to EduShield's work, please contact the lead for safeguarding matters at EduShield Ltd:

Louis Donald

**Email:** louis.donald@Edushield.org.uk

**Phone:** 07527760408