

**University of Chichester Academy Trust**

**Safeguarding Statement**

The University of Chichester Academy Trust is fully committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff, governors and volunteers to share in this commitment. The Trust ensures that rigorous arrangements are in place in every academy to identify, assess, and support those children who are suffering harm and to keep them safe and secure. Safeguarding is fully incorporated into the Trust ethos and is underpinned through the teaching of the curriculum and within the safety of the physical environment provided for the pupils.

The Trust delegates responsibility for the safeguarding and well-being of pupils to individual academies. Academies follow the practice and procedures of their local safeguarding board. Every academy completes an annual safeguarding audit and the local safeguarding board annual return. Headteachers provide an annual safeguarding report to governors. Safeguarding practice within the Trust academies is monitored at least annually by Academy Improvement Partners to ensure that all statutory requirements are met.

*Each Trust academy is responsible for ensuring that there is a school-based policy statement and a set of procedures which make clear how the school effectively implements their Local Authority Child Protection (Safeguarding) policy within their local context. The documents that schools develop at the local level must meet relevant* [*regulatory requirements*](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/keeping-children-safe-in-education)*, including for an Early Years phase (EYFS) if applicable.*