

City of York
Safeguarding Children Partnership



City of York Children's Safeguarding
Partnership Procedure

for

CYSCP School Audit (Section 175/157) and
Assurance Arrangements



**City of York Children’s Safeguarding Partnership Procedure for
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Update and Approval Process			
Version	Group/Person	Date	Comments
Draft 1.0	Caroline Wood		Draft submitted by CW
Draft 1.0	Sophia Lenton-Brook		Reviewed by SLB
Draft 1.0	Executive	16.03.21	For approval

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Reviewing Officer	City of York Safeguarding Children Partnership Business Unit

City of York Children’s Safeguarding Partnership Procedure for (CYSCP) School Audit (Section 157 and 175, Education Act 2002) and Assurance Arrangements to the CYSCP Executive.

1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 This document sets out the audit and assurance arrangements agreed by the CYSCP in respect of schools within the City of York. The CYSCP Executive has agreed the following approach in seeking assurance around safeguarding practice within the city’s schools as outlined under Sections 175 and 157 of the Education Act (2002).

2.0 CYSCP Approach

- 2.1 A rolling programme of Individual Safeguarding Reviews is undertaken by the School Safeguarding Advisor, who sits within the Local Authority School Effectiveness and Achievement team. These reviews will also be proactively offered to schools where it is felt that there is a need/requirement due to information from risk assessments, or where potential issues arising from parental concerns, or from partners. The reviews involve a half day site visit, with a detailed report being produced containing recommendations and actions. A copy of the report is also retained by the Local Authority for oversight and assurance. Schools are then supported by the School Safeguarding Advisor as needed to implement the recommendations. Reviews are comprehensive and focus on key areas including:

- The management of safeguarding
- Training
- Safer recruitment
- Safeguarding policies and procedures
- Behaviour management and use of restrictive intervention
- Children Missing Education
- Record keeping
- Multi-agency working
- Children keeping safe, mental health and wellbeing and student voice
- IT security and e-safety
- Site security
- Covid-19 arrangements

- 2.2 Risk assessments for schools are undertaken by the School Effectiveness and Achievement Team, City of York Council on an ongoing basis, which identify whether any safeguarding support is needed. These are informed by regular contact between schools and

their allocated advisor, with Multi-Academy Trusts (MAT), and by undertaking school monitoring visits/meetings. The School Safeguarding Advisor will respond to any support needs identified as part of this assessment.

3.0 Covid-19 Arrangements

3.1 During Covid-19 restrictions, the School Safeguarding Advisor will make arrangements to carry out certain functions virtually including individual safeguarding reviews, where appropriate, while visits to schools are not possible.

4.0 Governance

4.1 The School Safeguarding Advisor will continue to contribute to multi-agency audits as specified by the CYSCP, and engage with schools in the dissemination of learning from these and from individual Case Reviews.

4.2 The School safeguarding Advisor will provide termly assurance updates to the CYSCP Executive regarding safeguarding in schools, which will summarise safeguarding activity undertaken in schools and identify any themes and specific safeguarding concerns raised through audit and by colleagues in schools. An example of the assurance report can be found in Appendix A below.

Appendix A

Example of the Assurance Report to the CYSCP Executive

CYSCP Education Assurance Report	
Date:	
Report prepared by:	

Period covered from xxxxxxxx to xxxxxxxx

1. Summary

[summarise work/ activities undertaken in this period which impacts on safeguarding children and young people, highlighting any specific aspects of safeguarding of which the Partnership needs to be aware. This may include any emerging patterns within the working of the agency/organisation and/or joint working with partners, and particular developments linked to a Partnership priority]

2. Safeguarding children training and Impact

[Confirmation and description of any safeguarding children training which has taken place and how Education has engaged with CYSCP multi-agency training including impact]

3. Outcomes and learning points from School Safeguarding Reviews or Inspections

[Any key safeguarding themes emerging from this activity]

4. Examples of good practice

[Any good practice examples observed around key issues e.g voice of the child, supporting vulnerable children, mental health and wellbeing, Covid impacts, multi- agency working]

5. Voice of the Child

[examples of how schools ensure that they appropriately listen and respond to the voice of children and young people.]

6. Learning from Covid-19

[Examples of any learning and impacts from Covid-19]

7. Issues/Barriers/Delays

[Issues/Barriers/Delays which have been identified during the past quarter and need the Executive to make a decision on, escalate issues or remove any barriers to support progress].