



Safeguarding Statement

Shropshire and Telford Education Partnership (STEP) is fully committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of all the staff, learners and facilitators we work with. We believe that everyone has the right to feel safe, valued, and supported, and we take our responsibilities seriously across all schools and services across STEP.

Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility. All staff, volunteers, governors, and partners working with STEP share a collective duty to protect everyone from harm, respond swiftly to concerns, and create environments where pupils can thrive.

Our Commitment

STEP is committed to:

- Providing safe, nurturing, and inclusive learning environments
- Ensuring robust safeguarding policies and procedures are in place and regularly reviewed
- Promoting a culture of vigilance, transparency, and accountability
- Checking that all staff, learners and facilitators have received appropriate safeguarding training
- Ensuring safer recruitment practices across the partnership
- Supporting mental health and wellbeing as part of our safeguarding approach

Safeguarding in Practice

Across STEP, we ensure that:

- All staff understand how to identify and report concerns
- Concerns are responded to promptly and appropriately
- A culture of openness and belonging so that all adults know who they can talk to if they feel unsafe
- Safeguarding is considered in all decision-making, planning, and partnership work



Shropshire and Telford Education Partnership

Policies and Procedures

STEP's safeguarding and child protection policies are aligned with:

- **Keeping Children Safe in Education (KCSIE)**
- **Working Together to Safeguard Children**
- Local authority safeguarding arrangements
- Statutory guidance for schools and academies

Each school within STEP maintains its own safeguarding policy, reflecting local context while following the overarching principles and expectations set by the partnership.

Our Culture of Safeguarding

Safeguarding is at the heart of everything we do. STEP is committed to creating a culture where:

- Staff feel confident to raise concerns
- Barriers to reporting are removed
- The wellbeing of adults is prioritised in all decisions