



## **RMET - Safeguarding Policy for Ruskin Mill Educational Trust**

RMET and its colleges recognise that they have a responsibility to ensure the safety and wellbeing of all children and vulnerable adults involved in the Trust's activities. The protection of these groups is a priority. Safeguarding is the duty of all staff and students.

RMET Colleges work with young people aged 16 - 25 with a range of learning disabilities and/or difficulties, including diagnoses of Asperger syndrome, dyslexia, dyspraxia, attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD), attention deficit disorder (ADD) and communication difficulties, such as semantic pragmatic disorder. Working with groups of vulnerable young people requires staff to adhere to the safeguarding protocol for Child Protection and Protection of Vulnerable Adults (POVA).

Safeguarding Officers are responsible for implementing this policy and procedure. (Please refer to **RMET Safeguarding Procedure - Appendix 1** for the Safeguarding Officer details at each RMET college)

### **Principles**

RMET has adopted the following principles in relation to the protection of children and vulnerable adults

- The welfare of children and vulnerable adults is paramount
- The protection of children and vulnerable adults is everyone's responsibility
- All children and vulnerable adults - whatever their age, culture, disability, gender, sexual orientation, racial origin, language and/or religious belief - have the right to protection from significant harm
- All allegations and suspicions of abuse will be taken seriously and responded to swiftly and appropriately
- The College will follow statutory and specialist guidelines in working with children, young people and vulnerable adults when responding to all allegations and/or suspicions of abuse
- The College will seek to support all those affected by abuse
- The Trust will review this Safeguarding Policy annually

### **Policy**

In order to protect children and vulnerable adults from abuse, the Ruskin Mill Management Team will

- Appoint a minimum of two designated College Safeguarding Officers with relevant expertise to respond to allegations and concerns, and to collate safeguarding data (these could be co-opted if needed)
- Plan and resource the appropriate assessment and supervision of students to ensure their safety and safeguarding

## Ruskin Mill Educational Trust

- Recruit all staff who work with children and vulnerable adults according to ‘*Safe from Harm*’ principles by ensuring that everyone working with children or vulnerable adults
  - has undergone a Criminal Records Bureau check at an enhanced level
  - is adequately trained and supervised
  - understands and follows the College Safeguarding Policy and Procedures
  - is registered with their relevant professional body (if appropriate)
- Ensure that appropriate recording and monitoring systems are in place
- Report all allegations and/or suspicions of abuse to the Local Authority Safeguarding team and the college will work in partnership with them to determine the next steps
- Enforce this policy

This policy fulfils the requirements of

- The Care Standards Act 2000
- The Children Act 1989
- The Protection of Children Act 1999
- Sexual Offences Act 2003
- The Human Rights Act 1998
- *Working Together to Safeguard Children* (Home Office, Department of Health, Department of Education and Employment 1999)
- *No Secrets* (Department of Health 2000)

and is linked to the following RMET Student Safeguarding Policies

- Recruitment Policy
- Disciplinary Policy
- Whistle Blowing Policy
- Bullying Policy
- Complaints Policy
- Health and Safety Policy
- Lone working Policy