



Kingston and Richmond  
Safeguarding Children Partnership

**Kingston & Richmond Safeguarding Children Partnership  
Education Subgroup - Terms of Reference**

**November 2024**



## ***I. Purpose***

The KRSCP Education Subgroup is tasked with bringing education as the fourth safeguarding partner and reporting directly to the KRSCP Delegated Safeguarding Partners (DSPs).

It is a collaborative, multi-agency approach to championing the education of all our children.

This subgroup will provide a communication channel between education and the multi-agency network to raise the profile of education across the local authorities with a view to improving outcomes for children.

The Education Subgroup operates in alignment with the Working Together to Safeguard Children 2023 Guidance. The subgroup aims to enhance communication between the education sector and the multi-agency network, thereby improving outcomes for children across the local authorities.

Key aspects of this alignment include:

- **Inclusion of Education Providers in Safeguarding:**  
Lead Safeguarding Partners (LSPs) should create an environment which enables all schools (including independent schools and academy trusts), colleges, early years, and other education and childcare providers in the local area to be fully engaged, involved, and included in local safeguarding arrangements. (Chapter 2)
- **Strategic Role of Education in Safeguarding:**  
LSPs should have an education representative at strategic discussions representing the education sector. These local leaders will bring insights on the experiences of children locally, and on how arrangements impact on the education and childcare system. (Chapter 2)
- **Collaboration and Communication:**  
Most local multi-agency safeguarding arrangements include systems to ensure engagement and collaboration at the operational level, such as through education sub-groups and networks, practitioner forums involving designated safeguarding leads, and nominated education representatives. (Chapter 2)
- For further context, please refer to [Working Together to Safeguard Children 2023](#).

## ***II. Anti-racist and discriminatory practice***

The Education Subgroup is committed to upholding the principles of Equality, Diversity, and Inclusion (EDI) as outlined in the Kingston and Richmond Safeguarding Children Partnership EDI Statement<sup>1</sup>. The subgroup will carefully consider issues of identity, including the diverse backgrounds and needs of children, and address any barriers that may affect their access to education and safeguarding services. The subgroup will actively challenge discriminatory practices within the educational context and work to ensure that all children receive equitable support and opportunities to thrive.

## ***III. Membership***

- Kingston Primary Headteacher

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<sup>1</sup> [Equality, diversity and inclusion statement - Kingston and Richmond Safeguarding Children Partnership](#)



- Richmond Primary Headteacher
- Kingston Nursery Headteacher
- Kingston Secondary Headteacher
- Richmond Secondary Headteacher
- St Mary's University: Head of wellbeing
- Kingston University: Head of wellbeing
- Richmond Independent School
- Richmond College safeguarding lead
- KRSCP Education Coordinator
- Virtual School
- AfC Education Welfare
- AfC Schools Safeguarding Adviser
- SEND
- AfC Early Help
- AfC Early Years
- Associate Director for Safeguarding, AfC
- Governor rep
- Commissioning AfC
- Fostering AfC
- School nursing: CLCH for Richmond and Your Healthcare for Kingston
- Police School Support Officer (SSO)
- Leaving Care Lead AfC
- Primary and secondary DSL insight
- Auriga Academy Trust CEO (Strathmore, Clarendon and Capella House)
- Kingston Special School
- Early Years settings Kingston & Richmond
- Designated Social Care Officer for SEND
- Local Authority Designated Officer, AfC
- Secondary Independent School Headteacher
- Kingston College Safeguarding Lead
- Associate Director for Permanence, AfC
- Single Point of Access represented by Contextual Safeguarding lead or the SPA Manager, AfC
- Additional invitations made based on meeting themes. This may include but is not limited to colleagues within; Domestic Abuse, Virtual School, School Improvement, SEND, Early Help, Family Partnership, Early Years, safeguarding, social care, health and police.

#### ***IV. Duties of subgroup members***

- Promote an Attachment Aware and Trauma Informed schools' community.
- Improve the understanding of safeguarding issues within education settings and across the partnership.
- Review relevant education-based data to inform strategic planning and oversight.
- Improve the understanding of safeguarding issues for elective home educated (EHE) children (including measures to reduce EHE) across the partnership.
- Provide a communication channel between education settings and the KRSCP.
- To identify and discuss strategic issues being raised by educational establishments and where required, make suitable recommendations to the partnership for action.
- To feedback to the DSLs on the implication of decisions and policy changes relating to safeguarding children in and out of education establishments.
- Ensure that the Local Authority and education settings have robust and joined-up systems in place to optimise children's attendance at registered education settings. This includes



procedures for monitoring and supporting children out of education, including part-time timetables and elective home education.

- Ensure all schools and education settings including early years, further and higher education are fully compliant, and staff know their safeguarding responsibilities.
- Support education settings in their strategic responsibilities relating to safeguarding and child protection.
- Oversee and report on the annual safeguarding section 11/175 and EYFS self-audit returns and use the data meaningfully to improve support and learning/training for the sectors.
- To provide an opportunity for educational establishments to identify and share best safeguarding practice and consider themes from Ofsted inspections.
- Provide support to education settings and their designated safeguarding leads with their designated safeguarding responsibilities including advising on child protection policies and procedures, emerging issues and sharing best practice.
- Group members are to effectively challenge practitioners and practice within their own agency and others, in order to safeguard children and young people.
- It is the responsibility of group members to agree and complete actions in a timely manner.

#### ***V. Governance and accountability***

- The Education Subgroup is chaired by the Executive Headteacher Associate Director, Education Standards, Children with a Social Worker, AfC Virtual School and is coordinated by the KRSCP team. The subgroup chair will report quarterly on activity and outcomes achieved by the subgroup to the statutory strategic leadership. The chair will also attend the meeting of subgroup chairs.
- Subgroup members will provide an annual update as part of the KRSCP annual report.

#### ***VI. Subgroup operation***

- Subgroup meetings will take place three times per year.
- Subgroup members are expected to attend every meeting. Where there is a legitimate reason for non-attendance, an apology must be sent and a representative nominated to attend. Attendance at subgroup meetings will be monitored, and lack of representation from agencies will be highlighted.
- Meeting agendas will be circulated at least five working days before the meeting. Minutes will be distributed to subgroup members after the meeting.

#### ***VIII. Review***

The terms of reference will be reviewed at least every two years, or more frequently if necessary, to ensure they remain relevant and effective in guiding the subgroup's work.