

Safeguarding Policy for HE Student

Revision number:	Leeds Conservatoire Board
Applicable from:	01/09/2023
Approved by:	01/03/2026
Scope of policy (audience):	Staff, students, prospective students, parents/carers, employers (work placements), visitors, contractors, volunteers
Policyholder:	Group Head of Student Support and Wellbeing
Contact:	quality@leedsconservatoire.ac.uk
Alternative formats:	e.g. audio, large font, braille – on request

Contents

Introduction.....	2
Equality Impact Assessment Information	2
Definitions	2
Procedure	3
Policy.....	3
Breach of Policy	3

Introduction

Leeds Conservatoire has a common law duty of care to ensure, so far as is reasonably practicable, the health, safety and welfare of all vulnerable individuals and groups accessing its services and facilities. The conservatoire is mindful of this duty and legal obligations, such as those it owes under the Safeguarding Vulnerable Groups Act 2006, the Freedom of Information Act 2012 and the Counter Terrorism and Security Act 2015.

The conservatoire has two separate sets of policies and procedures, to ensure that an age appropriate approach is adopted in all cases. These are:

- 1) Safeguarding Policy for HE Students
- 2) Safeguarding Policy for Leeds Junior Conservatoire Students

The conservatoire's safeguarding arrangements are underpinned by the key principles that:

- All individuals have a right to be protected from abuse regardless of their age, gender, disability, culture, language, race, religious beliefs or sexual orientation;
- The welfare of the individual is of paramount importance
- Everyone has a responsibility to safeguard students;
- Everyone working with students maintains an attitude of 'it could happen here' (Keeping Children Safe in Education, September 2020).

Equality Impact Assessment Information

Equality Impact Assessment to follow

Definitions

Executive Leadership Team (ELT) comprised of Principal and Vice Principal.

Abuse – when someone causes a person harm or distress. Definitions and Indicators of abuse are detailed in Appendix 1 of the Safeguarding Procedures

Safeguarding is the action that is taken to promote the welfare of individuals and protect them from harm.

PREVENT forms part of the UK's overall counter terrorism strategy which is called CONTEST; it focusses on supporting and protecting vulnerable individuals who may be at risk of being exploited by radicalisers and subsequently drawn into terrorist related activity. PREVENT is not about race, religion or ethnicity, the programme is to prevent the exploitation of susceptible people.

Radicalisation is defined as the process by which people come to support terrorism and violent extremism and, in some cases, to then participate in terrorist groups. The process of radicalisation is different for every individual and is a process, not a one-off event; it can take place over an extended period or within a very short time frame. It is important that staff are able to recognise possible signs and indicators of radicalisation.

Procedure

The policy is effected by appropriate procedures and guidance which are reviewed and signed off by the relevant Head of Department annually, for example:

Safeguarding Procedures
Student Mental Health Policy and Procedures
Health & Safety Policy
HE Admissions Policies
Student Charter
Student Handbooks
Equality and Diversity Policy Statement
Student Disability Policy
Freedom of Speech and Expression Code of Practice
'Prevent' Risk Assessment

Channel is part of the Prevent strategy. The process is a multi-agency approach to identify and provide support to individuals who are at risk of being drawn into terrorism.

Upskirting is a term used to describe the act of taking a sexually intrusive photograph up someone's skirt without their permission; it is usually performed without their permission. Under the Voyeurism (Offences) Act of 2019 it is now a criminal offence.

To report any safeguarding concerns and/or PREVENT incidents please email safeguarding@lcm.ac.uk

Policy

Leeds Conservatoire has a statutory and moral duty to ensure that it safeguards and promotes the welfare of all conservatoire users, with particular reference to those studying at the conservatoire.

The conservatoire aims to:

- Ensure that the conservatoire meets all of its legal, moral and safeguarding responsibilities
- Manage the impact and any communication to the wider student population
- Consider the impact upon staff
- Ensure that any external communication (involving media) is dealt with in a professional and appropriate manner

The conservatoire will achieve these aims by:

- Having a clearly defined policy and procedures
- Ensuring that staff are aware of any policies and procedures that need to be followed
- Managing clear and appropriate engagement with all parties involved
- Ensuring access to support services for staff and students where needed
- Adopting a consistent whole institution approach

Breach of Policy

Breach of this policy carries a risk of distress caused to students, staff or external parties. Any complaint should be raised with the Quality Team in the first instance and may be investigated through the Complaints Policy.