



# **The Park Federation Academy Trust Western House Academy**

**Statement of procedures for dealing with allegations of abuse  
against staff**

## Approval

<b>Approved by CEO and Federation Principal on behalf of the Board of Directors</b>	Dr. Martin Young
<b>Date of approval</b>	July 2021
<b>Date of review</b>	June 2023

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## **Statement of procedures for dealing with allegations of abuse by staff at Western House Academy or by The Park Federation Central Trust Team**

**Please read this policy in conjunction with the Child Protection Policy on the Western House Academy Website, and the most up-to-date version of “Keeping Children Safe in Education” (Department for Education). Thank you.**

Key People:

Coral Snowden (Academy Principal)

Rob Jones (Designated Safeguarding Lead)

Dr. Martin Young (Trust’s Chief Executive Officer)

Ranisha Dhamu (Trust’s Safeguarding Governance Lead)

### **Allegations against Western House Academy staff**

If a complaint of abuse is made against a member of staff at Western House Academy, the person receiving the complaint must take it seriously and immediately inform the Academy Principal at the school. A record of the concerns must be made, including a note of anyone else who witnessed the incident or allegation. **The Local Authority Designated Officer (LADO) must be involved at this initial stage.**

The LADO will decide whether the allegation needs to be reported to the Police or should be dealt with by Social Services or referred back to the school to manage. If it is decided to refer to the school, the federation’s Central Trust HR team will support the school with the investigation if one is warranted.

### **Allegations against a member of the federation’s Central Trust Team staff**

The federation has employees who are members of a Central Trust Team. These employees work across a number of federation schools, including Western House Academy. If a complaint of abuse against one of these employees is received at Western House Academy, it must be taken seriously and immediately reported to the Academy Principal. A record of the concerns must be made, including a note of anyone else who witnessed the incident or allegation. The Local Authority Designated Officer (LADO) must be involved at this initial stage. The federation’s Chief Executive Officer (CEO) should be informed too.

The LADO will decide whether the allegation needs to be reported to the Police or should be dealt with by Social Services or referred back to the school to manage. If it is decided to refer to the school, the federation’s Central Trust HR team will support the school with the investigation if one is warranted.

### **Allegations against a supply teacher:**

If a complaint of abuse is made against a supply teacher working at Western House Academy, the person receiving the complaint must take it seriously and immediately inform the Academy Principal at the school. A record of the concerns must be made, including a note of anyone else who witnessed the incident or allegation. **The Local Authority Designated Officer (LADO) must be involved at this initial stage along with the agency who supplied the teacher.**

**Allegation against the Academy Principal:**

If the allegation is made against the Academy Principal, the Trust's CEO will contact the LADO at this initial stage. The procedures in this case will be similar to those for any other member of staff.

The LADO will decide whether the allegation needs to be reported to the Police or should be dealt with by Social Services or referred to the school to manage. If it is decided to refer to the school, the federation's Central Trust HR team will support the CEO with the investigation if one is warranted.

**Allegation against the Trust's Chief Executive Officer:**

If the allegation is made against the Trust's CEO, the Governance Safeguarding Lead will contact the LADO at this initial stage. The procedures in this case will be similar to those for any other member of staff.

The LADO will decide whether the allegation needs to be reported to the Police or should be dealt with by Social Services or referred to the school to manage. If it is decided to refer to the school, the federation's Central Trust HR team will support the Governance Safeguarding Lead with the investigation if one is warranted.

**Referral to the Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS):**

A referral to the Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) will be made by the Academy Principal if a person at his or her school in regulated activity has been dismissed or removed due to safeguarding concerns or would have been had they not resigned.

A referral to the Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) will be made by the CEO if the Academy Principal has been dismissed or removed due to safeguarding concerns or would have been had they not resigned.

A referral to the Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) will be made by the CEO if a Central Trust employee in a regulated activity has been dismissed or removed due to safeguarding concerns or would have been had they not resigned.

A referral to the Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) will be made by the Governance Safeguarding Lead if the CEO has been dismissed or removed due to safeguarding concerns or would have been had they not resigned.



