

Statement of Intent: Tackling Child-On-Child Abuse at Kingsdale Foundation School

At Kingsdale Foundation School we understand and appreciate that child-on-child abuse has a profound impact on the young people involved and their families. It is therefore our aim to ensure the way that the school responds is as supportive as possible to those involved, and that this is underpinned by structured, consistent and effective policies and actions. We have done much over the past few years to improve our safeguarding infrastructure which underpins that advice provided to students and their families but the #Me Too campaign and more recently, the media spotlight on the online platform, 'Everyone's Invited' makes it clear that we could and should do more.

At Kingsdale, we are determined to robustly and vigorously review our practice so that we learn and apply the lessons from the past, and do better in future.

We understand that our stakeholders and in particular our students have much to tell us and it is aim to hear their personal testimonies and to allow them to share their experiences within the landscape of a global, national and local movement for change. We will work with students, staff, parents and our trustees, as allies, to implement meaningful change which will become embedded in our daily and routine practices.

This statement of intent exemplifies the context in which actions will be taken by our school that are appropriate and in line with national guidelines to recognise, raise awareness and develop approaches to child-on-child abuse and to highlight areas where we need to improve, strengthen our response and where we need to 'do things differently.' For example; we will:

- Improve how we respond to the impact of child-on-child abuse on the young people involved and their families
- Continue to listen to their experiences and be guided by their needs and not our imposed timescales of their support and recovery journey
- Broaden and grow our understanding of the lived experiences of students and their families who are affected by child-on-child abuse through external and school-based training, monitoring and timely reviews underpinned by continuous learning and improvement
- Review the way referrals and actions are recorded and implement proven and effective measures which increase the prevention and identification of child-on-child abuse

We believe that it is imperative that we now take this opportunity to implement all we have learned and will learn from the #Me Too and Everyone's Invited campaigns, to listen better and to respond more swiftly to advice from experts and feedback from families. We will go beyond just what is expected and will work determinedly towards becoming an even more inclusive and exemplar institution of best practice.