MEETING OF THE FYLDE COAST ACADEMY TRUST SAFEGUARDING BOARD

Meeting No. 19

Date: Thursday 22nd February 2018
Venue: Montgomery High School
Time: 4.15pm

Present: Dr David Sanders (Chair)
Ms Fiona Bate (SENCO and Leader of Student Services, Hodgson Academy)
Ms Victoria Blakeman (Safeguarding Governor, Blackpool Sixth Form College)
Mr Simon Brennand (Designated Safeguarding Lead, Unity Academy)
Mrs Sue Burrows (Safeguarding Governor, Westcliff Primary School)
Mr Tim Craven (Designated Safeguarding Officer, Blackpool Sixth Form College)
Mr Bill Greene (Safeguarding Governor, Aspire Academy)
Ms Rebecca Gudgeon (Designated Safeguarding Lead, Westcliff Primary School)
Mr Pete Murphy (Safeguarding Governor, Garstang Community Academy)
Mr Neill Oldham (Designated Safeguarding Lead, Aspire Academy)
Mr Stuart Ormson (Head of Student Support, Blackpool Sixth Form College)
Ms Nicola Wheatley (Designated Safeguarding Lead, Mereside Primary School)

Mr Ian Large (Performance Manager Highways and Traffic Management Services, Blackpool Council) – for part of the meeting

Mrs Kath Buddle (FCAT Governance Administrator – minutes)

Apologies:
Apologies were received and accepted from Ms J Aionesei, Ms N Anderson, Ms A Gibbons, Ms L Knowles Mr T Nicholson, Ms G Smith, Mr B Wiseman, Ms H Wood and Ms G Yeadon.

Action

1. **Preliminaries**
The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Introductions were made. Apologies were noted.

2. **Declarations of interest**
None

3. **Student Perspective – Montgomery High School students**
The meeting heard from three Montgomery students on the following safeguarding concerns:
Tackling discrimination – although the academy was working hard to identify and address discrimination, this continued in a casual and generic way both inside and outside school. It was felt that some students did not understand that they were being discriminatory and that an awareness raising exercise would be useful.
Security in Blackpool Town Centre – this had been raised by the Student Council as a key safeguarding issue. The general condition of the town, littering, lighting and lack of police presence all contributed to students' unease when in the town centre.
Safety on Blackpool Transport – students felt that bus drivers were not responding to disruptive behaviour and damage on buses and this left students feeling unsafe. Students highlighted also some particularly dangerous incidents of 'bus surfing'. It was felt that Montgomery staff were providing students with

adequate support while they were waiting at the school bus stop.

Transition from Year 6 to Year 7 – the Deputy Safeguarding Lead for Montgomery raised the fact that children moving from primary to secondary level were often anxious about the change and that it was important for schools to work together to address this.

4. **Feedback from Ian Large, Performance Manager of Highways and Traffic Management Services, Blackpool Council**
IL provided an update on road safety developments discussed at previous meetings. He confirmed that consultation on the potential to make All Hallows Road one way had not yet been carried out. Asked for a timeframe on this, IL confirmed that consultation could be completed and subsequent changes to the road system made within a six month period. The Chair asked IL to move forward on this as soon as possible, with a view to making the road one-way by September 2018.

IL

In respect of improvements to safety on Blackpool Old Road, outside Blackpool Sixth Form College and Aspire Academy, IL confirmed that Blackpool Council had not yet had the opportunity to meet with colleagues at Lancashire County Council to discuss this further. The Chair asked him to contact Blackpool Council's Director of Community and Environmental Services to hear his views on changes that could be initiated to improve safety on the road. The Chair stated that he would be happy to be involved in any further meetings on the matter if required.

IL

IL confirmed that he had met with the Principal at Gateway Primary Academy to discuss the implementation of warning signs and improvements to drop off facilities. The academy had agreed to fund the changes and a survey with parents on the proposals would be carried out.

IL agreed to look into work in progress to improve safety at the Sports Barn, reduce the sale of cigarettes and e-cigarettes to underage children and review lighting strategies across the town, all mentioned at previous meetings and agreed as priority areas for the Director of Community and Environmental Services, and feedback to the group at the next meeting.

IL

The Chair thanked IL for his attendance and he left the meeting.

5. **Student Perspective – implications for the FCAT Safeguarding Board**
The Board discussed the issues raised by the Montgomery students earlier in the meeting and proposed the following:
- Share the work being carried out at Aspire Academy (LGBT Champion) and Blackpool Sixth Form College with Montgomery High School to help reduce incidents of bullying and discrimination. Ensure awareness raising programmes continue.
- Consider a strategy to address discriminatory practice and use of inflammatory language with parents.
- Obtain an update from the Director of Community and Environmental Services on actions in place to address the safety issues raised at previous meetings.
- Contact Blackpool Transport re the new safety issues raised by students travelling by bus.

NO/GS

Chair to contact

SB highlighted safety concerns for children and young people travelling on the rail network and agreed to bring examples of resources that could be used to address these to the next meeting.

SB

6. **Minutes of the meeting held on 22nd November 2017**
   The minutes of the meeting were approved. The following issues were noted:

   6.1 **Update on possible incidents of bullying at Blackpool Sixth Form College** (Item 5a from the previous minutes) – TC and SO reported that they had discussed the matter further with the student concerned and been reassured that the number of incidents over the last three years was small and had reduced significantly over the last year. Further research on the reasons for bullying had identified that bullying because of someone's appearance was one of the most reported and the College was doing some follow up work to address this. A survey to consult students on whether or not a uniform should be introduced would be carried out and the College was also considering the development of a peer support group.

   6.2 **Feedback to pupils on safeguarding developments** (Item 6.1 from the previous minutes) – the Clerk was asked to draft this and confer with the Chair on finalisation.

   <div align="right">Clerk/Chair</div>

   6.3 **Letter to Cumbria County Council** (Item 6.2 from the previous minutes) – the Chair confirmed that it had taken time to get a response from Cumbria County Council to an incident that had taken place at Aspire Academy about a child in Cumbria County Council's care. The letter had been forwarded on to NO and the Chair of Aspire Academy Council for information.

   6.4 **Responses to issues raised with external agencies** (Item 6.3 from the previous minutes) – due to changes in personnel at Blackpool Children and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS) the Chair asked the Clerk to invite David Eaton, Service Manager of Blackpool CAMHS to the next meeting for an update on developments.

   <div align="right">Clerk</div>

   6.5 **Duty rotas** (Item 7 from the previous minutes) – a brief discussion on signposting arrangements out of school hours took place. It was agreed to discuss schools' concern about their capacity to provide Level 2 (Early Help) provision in respect of safeguarding at the next meeting. It was felt that a response to local authorities on the matter might be needed. NO and SB agreed to bring examples of cases for the item.

   <div align="right">Clerk (agenda) NO/SB</div>

   6.6 **Montgomery Mobile Phone Policy** (Item 7 from the previous minutes) – the Clerk reported the Montgomery Deputy DSL's findings in respect of the impact of the ban on use of mobile phones on bullying. Montgomery had confirmed that the number of recorded incidents of bullying had reduced to 15 from 25 at the same time last year. Recorded incidents of sexting had increased slightly though this was felt to be as a result of raised awareness of the matter in assemblies.

7. **Keeping Children Safe in Education (KCSIE) – proposed changes**
   The Chair summarised some of the key changes proposed to KCSIE (Papers 7.1 and 7.2) which would subsequently impact on the FCAT Safeguarding Policy. The following issues were noted in particular:
   - **Paragraph 55** – the requirement on schools to incorporate their specific safeguarding issues within their own safeguarding/child protection policy. In the case of FCAT academies it had been agreed that the FCAT wide Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy should be adopted and tailored as required to address specific safeguarding issues at specific

academies.

- **Paragraph 55** – additional information in respect of children missing in education and the safeguarding concerns associated with this.
- **Paragraph 82** – improved safer recruitment when individuals rather than a panel is interviewing. It was acknowledged that incidents of this were rare across partner organisations.
- **Paragraph 86** – strengthening instructions on tackling peer abuse across schools and colleges; emphasising the significant increase in this type of incident.
- **Paragraphs 91 – 94** – new requirements in respect of Looked After Children.
- **Paragraph 95** – additional information for colleges' in respect of their responsibilities to care leavers.
- **Paragraph 97** – the importance of considering safeguarding in the context of using restraint.
- **Paragraph 98** – amendments to the footnote to reflect colleges' Conditions of Funding Agreements in respect of taking reasonable steps to establish whether a person carrying out teaching work is subject to a prohibition order which would prevent employment in the role.
- **Paragraph 119** – additional information to explain the use of the system to check for prohibitions, sanctions and restrictions when appointing staff and when verifying newly qualified teacher status to staff.
- **Paragraphs 124 -127** – additional information to consider when seeking and obtaining references.
- **Paragraph 141** – importance of ensuring written confirmation that pre-appointment checks have been carried out on Initial Teacher Training (ITT) trainees by the ITT provider.
- **Paragraph 158** – clarification for academy trusts on Section 128 and DBS checks for managers in schools.
- **Paragraph 195** – a reminder for schools and colleges to consider a teacher misconduct referral to the National College of Teaching and Leadership (NCTL) in certain circumstances.
- **Annex B** – consider online safety and Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) as elements in the training package for DSLs.

PM gave his apologies and left the meeting.

8. **Barclay's Project**

The group discussed the initiative to produce a DVD highlighting the dangers of online grooming. It was acknowledged that this was taking time to develop because of problems with script development. The Chair agreed to contact Barclay's and to speak with NO about how the project could be moved forward.

Chair

9. **Recent Safeguarding Case Study**

This item was deferred to the next meeting.

10. **Section 175 Audit**

SB provided a report on the overarching issues identified in the Section 175 returns by FCAT academies. Experienced DSLs and Deputy DSLs are in place across all academies and appropriate safeguarding training for staff and governors is carried out. The following actions to strengthen safeguarding across the academies were identified:

- Develop a common Early Help Policy, approach and response for sharing information.
- Re-highlight concerns about academies' capacity around Early Help to local authorities.

- Develop a consistent FCAT School Records Transfer Policy.
- Continue to use local authority Refugee and Asylum Seeker procedures and develop common procedures to maximise the chances of successful transition to FCAT academies.
- Support the forthcoming FCAT IT Security Policy currently in development.
- Review and update procedures in academies in line with revisions to KCSIE.
- Develop and implement a consistent FCAT wide Level 1 Safeguarding 'annual refresher' training package for all staff and governors.

11. Report to FCAT Board of Directors
The first report of the year from the Safeguarding Board to the FCAT Board of Directors was approved with a few amendments (Paper 11).

Clerk to make changes

12. National, Regional and Local Developments
The Chair reported that the Association of Independent Local Safeguarding Children's Board (LSCB) Chairs were currently considering the proposed structural changes to LSCBs and the impact of these.

13. Aspire Academy Safeguarding Updates
The updates (Papers 13.1 and 13.2) were noted.

14. Meeting Dates 2018-2019
The dates for meetings in the next academic year were noted. The Clerk agreed to contact DSLs to book venues for each.

Clerk

15. New risks
The group felt that discrimination felt by students needed to be added as a risk to the Risk Register and that a discussion on this should take place at the next meeting.

Clerk (Risk Register & agenda)

16. Date and time of next meeting
Thursday 26th April 2018 at 4.15pm
Unity Academy

Signed: _____(Chair)

Date: _____