



## **SIDNEY SUSSEX COLLEGE**

### **Policy on Safeguarding Children and Vulnerable Adults**

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For review and revision history – see page 18

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## **1.0 Aims**

- 1.1 The College aims to adopt the highest standards and take all reasonable steps in relation to the safety and welfare of children and adults at risk. The College encounters children and some adults at risk through its teaching and research activities, as well as through its recruitment and outreach programmes.
- 1.2 This policy does not discourage such activities in any way. Instead, it aims to support them and to offer assurances to those engaged in the work of the College that, through its implementation, the College seeks to protect children and adults at risk and keep them safe from harm when in contact with the College's employees, Fellows, volunteers, students or representatives (whether acting in a paid or unpaid capacity). It is also intended to safeguard the interests of employees, Fellows, volunteers, students and anyone who works on behalf of the College and who comes into contact with children or adults at risk.
- 1.3 This policy seeks to:
- a) promote and prioritise the safety and wellbeing of everyone, particularly children and adults who may be at risk;
  - b) ensure that roles and responsibilities are made clear in respect of safeguarding matters and that an appropriate level of information, training and support is provided to those within the College for whom it is necessary;
  - c) offer assurances to staff, students, parents, carers, volunteers and visitors that safeguarding concerns will be dealt with effectively and in a timely manner;
  - d) prevent the employment of individuals to work with children or adults at risk where they have been barred by the Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) or are deemed by the College to pose an unacceptable risk;
  - e) manage effectively the risks associated with activities and events involving children and adults at risk.

## **2.0 Scope**

- 2.1 The College's Fellows, employees, workers, volunteers, students or anyone working on behalf of the College (in a paid or unpaid capacity) are subject to this policy.
- 2.2 The policy covers all events and activities organized by those working on behalf of or representing the College, as well as official events and activities organized by its students. Such activities include Open Days, applicant visits and interviews, the interactions between students and the College Nurse, the Head of Student Wellbeing, and other Pastoral Leads, and visits from members of the public.
- 2.3 It is expected that external bodies using the College's premises or facilities for external events will have their own safeguarding policies and procedures in place and will take full responsibility for the safeguarding of individuals involved in any related activities.

## **3.0 Definitions**

- 3.1 **Safeguarding:** describes arrangements in place to protect children and adults at risk in vulnerable circumstances from abuse or neglect.
- 3.2 **Child / Children:** for this policy's purposes, a 'child' refers to anyone under the age of 18

and therefore not legally an independent adult. Particular care should be afforded to a child under the age of 16.

3.3 **Adult at Risk:** the definition of “regulated activity” for adults changed in 2012 and now identifies activities, which, if provided to any person aged 18 or over (an adult) who *needs* to be the recipient of the provision of that activity, will mean that the adult will be considered at risk at that particular time. It is therefore the activity and the need for it, rather than the setting or the adult’s particular personal characteristics, which determines whether an adult is at risk at any given time. These activities are summarized in 3.6.1.

3.4 **Abuse:** can be physical, sexual, psychological/emotional, financial/material or professional. It can also arise from neglect.

3.5 **Regulated activities in relation to children:**

3.5.1 Regulated activities are those activities which people who have been barred by the DBS are prohibited from undertaking.

3.5.2 A regulated activity in relation to children comprises:

- (a) unsupervised activities: teaching, training, instructing, caring for or supervising, or providing advice/guidance on wellbeing, provide personal care, or driving a vehicle only for children;
- (b) working for a limited range of establishments, with opportunity for contact e.g. schools, children’s homes, childcare premises;
- (c) Relevant personal care; or
- (d) Registered childminding; and foster-caring.

3.5.3 Work under (a) or (b) is considered regulated activity only if done **regularly**.

3.5.4 All members of the Undergraduate Admissions Team are considered to be regularly engaged in regulated activities with children under 18 as defined by the relevant legislation.

3.5.5 Full definitions of regulated activity in relation to children, including definitions of regularity, can be found here:

[https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/550197/Regulated\\_activity\\_in\\_relation\\_to\\_children.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/550197/Regulated_activity_in_relation_to_children.pdf)

3.6 **Regulated activity in relation to adults at risk:**

3.6.1 Regulated activity in relation to adults identifies activities provided to any adult which, if any adult *requires* them, will mean that the adult will be considered at risk at that particular time. There is no longer a requirement for a person to carry out regulated activities a certain number of times before they are deemed to be engaging in regulated activity in relation to adults. Whenever a person engages in one or more of the activities set out below in relation to any adult, they are deemed to be engaging in regulated activity and that adult is deemed to be at risk at that time:

- (a) Provision of health care (whether physical or mental, including palliative) by any health care professional who is regulated by General Medical Council, General Dental Council, Nursing and Midwifery Council, Health Professions Council;
- (b) Providing psychotherapy and counselling of a professional nature which is related

to health care the adult is receiving from, or under the direction or supervision of a health care professional;

- (c) Providing first aid, when any person administering it is doing so on behalf of an organization established for the purpose of providing first aid (e.g. Red Cross);
- (d) Providing personal care as a result of physical or mental illness, including physical assistance with eating or drinking, going to the toilet, washing, bathing, dressing etc., or supervising, training or providing advice/guidance to an adult to undertake these activities themselves where they cannot make the decision to do so unprompted;
- (e) Providing social work;
- (f) Assisting with general household matters (e.g. managing a person's money, paying their bills, shopping on their behalf);
- (g) Assisting in the conduct of a person's affairs (e.g. undertaking lasting or enduring power of attorney for an adult under the Mental Capacity Act 2005, being an independent mental health advocate etc.);
- (h) Conveying (e.g. driving a person specifically for the purpose of conveying them to and from places to receive care as detailed above).

3.6.2 The roles of College Nurse and Head of Student Wellbeing are considered to be engaged in regulated activity in relation to adults at risk as defined by the relevant legislation).

3.6.3 Full definitions of regulated activity in relation to adults can be found here:  
[https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/216900/Regulated-Activity-Adults-Dec-2012.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/216900/Regulated-Activity-Adults-Dec-2012.pdf).

#### **4.0 Roles**

4.1 The Senior Tutor is the College's designated Safeguarding Officer. As such, he/she takes overall ownership of the policy and will promote the importance of safeguarding within the College. The responsibilities of the Safeguarding Officer are outlined in Appendix 2.

4.2 Given the complexity of safeguarding matters, it is essential that any concerns are reported to the Safeguarding Officer to ensure that one person has access to all the relevant information. This is particularly important where a number of seemingly minor issues may collectively give rise to a more substantial concern.

4.3 Where concerns relate to the Senior Tutor, these will be considered by the Bursar who will assume the role of Safeguarding Officer for any complaint involving the Senior Tutor.

#### **5.0 Planning activities**

5.1 No activities assessed as carrying high- or very high risk under the college's Risk Assessment Methodology (see Appendix 3) are anticipated.

5.2 It is the responsibility of the Safeguarding Officer to retain oversight of the college's regulated activities and to ensure that:

- a) appropriate training is carried out by, and supervision is arranged for, those engaging

- in regulated activity (safeguarding guidance for those acting on behalf of the College carrying out activities involving children or adults at risk is included as Appendix 1);
- b) occasions in which those engaged in regulated activity will need to work alone in an unsupervised way are minimised; and
- c) regulated activities are appropriately risk assessed, and
- d) children and adults at risk participating in regulated activities are given clear information about how, and to whom, they can report any safeguarding concerns.

5.3 It is further the responsibility of the Safeguarding Officer to ensure that training is provided and made a condition for the holding of college offices and roles involving significant interactions with vulnerable adults, even when those interactions do not constitute regulated activities. Endorsement by the Education and Pastoral Care Committee will be necessary as part of the process of determining the college offices and roles requiring the holders to receive safeguarding training.

## **6.0 Risk Assessment**

6.1 It is the responsibility of the relevant Head of Department to ensure that:

- a) a risk assessment is undertaken for each regulated activity (the assessment should consider how the risks identified can be minimised or eliminated, outline the local processes for reporting concerns, take account of health and safety considerations and record training requirements);
- b) completed risk assessments are made available to employees, Fellows, workers, volunteers or students who are involved in the activity; and
- c) the implementation and review of actions identified within a risk assessment is undertaken in a timely manner.

6.2 A template risk assessment is provided as Appendix 3.

## **7.0 Induction and training**

7.1 It is the responsibility of the Head of Department to:

- a) Ensure that any employee, worker, Fellow, volunteer, student working on behalf of the College is made aware of the existence of this policy and asked to familiarize themselves with the contents as part of their induction;
- b) Ensure that any employee, worker, Fellow, volunteer, student working on behalf of the College **who engages in a regulated activity** completes safeguarding training, together with any additional training that may have been identified by any relevant risk assessment processes;
- c) Ensure that any any employee, worker, Fellow, volunteer, student working on behalf of the College, not involved in regulated activity, but for whom the Safeguarding Officer deems it appropriate, completes safeguarding training
- d) Record and monitor the safeguarding training undertaken by those working on behalf of the College in their area.

## **8.0 Recruitment and Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) checks**

8.1 DBS checks will be undertaken when recruiting or appointing to a role deemed to require a standard or enhanced check. The Safeguarding Officer will advise Heads of Department on which roles require a check as determined by the Disclosure and Barring service. The government provides a helpful tool to check eligibility for a standard or enhanced check.

This tool can be found at: <https://www.gov.uk/find-out-dbs-check> DBS checks will be renewed at regular intervals, usually every three years.

- 8.2 The HR Manager will undertake the DBS checks (notified to her by the Head of Department), as well as other pre-employment checks; these will include checking the accreditation of anyone employed by the College as a healthcare or psychotherapy professional such as a Counsellor or Nurse, and seeking references from recent previous employers, which may result in findings relevant to the fulfilment of the college's safeguarding duties: any such findings will be shared with the Safeguarding Officer.
- 8.3 It is the responsibility of the Head of Department to:
- a) Inform the HR Manager when a DBS check is required for a role which is to be recruited to, so that the correct documentation can be used as part of the recruitment process;
  - b) Discuss with the HR Manager, with advice from the Safeguarding Officer if required, if there is uncertainty as to whether a check is required, in order to ensure that appropriate checks are carried out.
- 8.4 In liaison with the relevant authorities, the Safeguarding Officer will refer someone to the DBS if they:
- a) Have had their employment with the College terminated because they harmed someone;
  - b) Have had their employment with the College terminated or job role limited because they might have harmed someone; or
  - c) Would have had their employment with the College terminated for either of these reasons, but they resigned first.

## **9.0 Arrangements for supporting students under the age of 18**

- 9.1 The College is not able to take on the authority, rights and responsibilities of parents in relation to their children, and it will not act *in loco parentis* in relation to students who are under the age of 18 years. However, in the rare circumstances that a student, under the age of 18, is matriculated and becomes a student member of College, the College will consider a wide range of issues, including social interaction, provision of tutorial support and supervision:
- a) Teaching and pastoral support. The format of teaching and pastoral support when under-18s are involved will seek, insofar as their educational experience would not be compromised, to avoid singleton tutorials or supervisions. It is recognized, however, that one-to-one contact with Tutors, Directors of Studies and Supervisors at meetings may be necessary.
  - b) IT facilities. Access and terms of use for the internet by under-18s for study will be as for all students.
  - c) Alcohol and student arranged activities. Access to alcohol by undergraduates under the age of 18 at any activity which is signed off by or known to the College will not be permitted. It is acknowledged that the individual student must also bear responsibility for his or her actions at any event. Safeguarding issues will be covered at the sign-off stage with student organisers. Consideration should be given to any risk posed by students over 18 at these events.
  - d) The College Bar. The College has effective systems and practices to counter underage

drinking and no student under 18 is permitted to work in the College bar.

- e) Liaison with Faculties and Departments. The College will inform/consult with the relevant Faculty or Department as early as possible about any student who will be under the age of 18 who is being admitted so that the University can put appropriate measures in place to meet its safeguarding obligations.

- 9.2 Residential accommodation offered by the College is generally intended for the use of adults. Only in the most exceptional circumstances will arrangements be made to accommodate students who are under the age of 18.

## **10.0 Raising a concern or allegation of abuse**

- 10.1 Any person involved in the work of the College (Fellows, employees, workers, volunteers, students or anyone working on behalf of the College in a paid or unpaid capacity) is encouraged to raise a concern or allegation of abuse by speaking to their line manager/Tutor or any senior member of the College who will escalate matters to the Safeguarding Officer as a matter of course. Concerns or allegations can also be made directly to the Safeguarding Officer.

## **11.0 Procedure for dealing with suspicions or allegations of abuse**

- 11.1 Those working with children or adults at risk may:
  - a) have alleged abuse disclosed to them;
  - b) suspect that abuse is being carried out; or
  - c) be accused of abusing those in their charge.
- 11.2 Whilst these issues may require very different courses of action, it is essential that the safety and welfare of the child or adult at risk is prioritised.
- 11.3 The Safeguarding Officer has responsibility for ensuring that they (or a nominated deputy) are available during normal working hours to respond to allegations without delay, and for procedures to be in place should issues arise outside of normal working hours.
- 11.4 **In the event there is a risk of immediate serious harm to a child or adult at risk, the emergency services should be contacted without delay.** Anybody can make a referral in these circumstances. The Safeguarding Officer should then be notified of the case.
- 11.5 Where a child or adult at risk discloses alleged abuse, or a member of the College suspects abuse which is not deemed to be an emergency, this should be referred immediately to the Safeguarding Officer who will consider what action is required. Such a referral should be made even where concerns are seemingly minor; in some instances it is a pattern or range of minor incidents which, when taken together, amount to a more significant concern requiring investigation. It is therefore vital that the Safeguarding Officer is privy to all concerns as they arise.
- 11.6 Appropriate records will be retained by the Safeguarding Officer in accordance with the College's Data Protection Policy. Where the matter relates to both staff and students, the Safeguarding Officer will determine where the file should be kept.
- 11.7 In consultation with the Master, Bursar, and HR Manager, the Safeguarding Officer will be responsible for contacting appropriate statutory agencies such as the Safeguarding

Children Partnership Board<sup>1</sup> or the Police, if necessary. The Safeguarding Officer will also have responsibility for fulfilling any legal obligations to report an individual to the DBS.

- 11.8 The College is not expected and should not attempt to investigate suspicions of abuse independently.
- 11.9 Where a suspicion needs to be investigated by the relevant authority, it may be necessary for the College to do one or more of the following:
- a) move the victim of an alleged safeguarding breach to a safe place;
  - b) suspend the individual(s) about whom an allegation or suspicion has arisen;
  - c) prevent the individual(s) about whom an allegation or suspicion has arisen from engaging in any regulated activities.
- 11.10 Serious safeguarding breaches may constitute gross misconduct under the College's disciplinary policy and may lead to summary dismissal.

## **12.0 Relevant College policies**

- 12.1 This policy should be read in conjunction with the range of College's policies, regulations and rules which cover related matters, including those dealing with:
- a) Student and Staff Harassment and Sexual Misconduct
  - b) Recruitment, Induction and Training
  - c) Equality and Diversity
  - d) Data Protection
  - e) Student Confidentiality
  - f) Whistleblowing
  - g) Staff-Student Relationships
  - h) IT guidelines
  - i) Health and Safety
  - j) Lone Working
  - k) Complaints
  - l) Disciplinary / Codes of Conduct
  - m) Visitor protocols
  - n) External speaker arrangements (PREVENT)
- 12.2 The College's Statutes and Ordinances, as well as a Collection of Student Rules including Regulations, can be found on the College website at <https://www.sid.cam.ac.uk/aboutus/publications/statsords>; College policies relating to staff and HR matters can currently (February 2022) be found at <https://www.sid.cam.ac.uk/sidnet/staff/finance/>.

## **13.0 Relevant legislation**

- 13.1 The following legislation is relevant to this policy because it has influenced its introduction and/or its content:
- a) Health and Safety at Work Act 1974
  - b) Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974

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<sup>1</sup> <http://www.safeguardingcambspeterborough.org.uk/children-board/about/>



- c) Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974 (Exceptions) Order 1975
- d) The Police Act 1997
- e) Protection of Children Act 1999
- f) Management of Health and Safety at Work Regulations 1999
- g) The Human Rights Act 1998
- h) Sexual Offences Act 2003
- i) The Children Act 2004
- j) Safeguarding Vulnerable Groups Act 2006
- k) Equality Act 2010
- l) Protection of Freedoms Act 2012
- m) Working Together to Safeguard Children 2015.

13.2 The Protection of Freedoms Act 2012 is of particular importance as all decisions made to bar individuals from working with children or adults at risk are now made by the Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) under this legislation.

## **Appendix 1: Guidance for those acting on behalf of the College carrying out activities involving children or adults at risk**

*This guidance should be read in conjunction with the College's Safeguarding Policy. Specifically, 'Section D) Additional guidance for online interactions' is designed to cover a range of online interactions that may occur with children or adults at risk, including but not limited to online meetings (individual or group), webinars, online outreach sessions and multi-session courses.*

### **A. General considerations**

- i. If you are acting in a position of trust with children or adults at risk, you are expected to be mindful that you are acting as a role model and therefore should behave accordingly.
- ii. Care should be taken to ensure that your conduct is appropriate to each circumstance and environment as well-intentioned actions can be misinterpreted.
- iii. All regulated activities should have undergone a risk assessment process, and you should have a copy of the relevant risk assessment which will identify the person to whom any concerns should be addressed promptly.
- iv. In your role you may become aware of, or suspect another person of abusing a child or adult at risk or they may disclose an allegation of abuse to you. You should raise any concerns with your Head of Department without delay or, where this is not possible, the Safeguarding Officer should be notified directly.
- v. Allegations of inappropriate behaviour may also be made against you, and such allegations will need to be investigated, and may result in referral to external agencies.

### **B. Safeguarding of children and adults at risk**

#### **B1. You should:**

- i. Treat everyone within the College community with respect;
- ii. Provide an example of good conduct for others to follow;
- iii. Ensure you have completed any required training and that you know what you should do if a child or adult at risk makes a disclosure to you;
- iv. Ensure you are familiar with any relevant risk assessment(s) and understand who the key contact is for the activity you are engaged in;
- v. Give due regard to cultural difference;
- vi. Be alert to and tackle inappropriate behaviour in others, including peer-to-peer behaviours. Abusive behaviour such as bullying (including cyber-bullying), ridiculing or aggression should not go unchallenged;
- vii. If you have to give feedback, take care that it is not unnecessarily negative;
- viii. Avoid being in a situation where you are alone with a child and make sure that others can clearly observe you;
- ix. Take care that your language is not open to sexual connotation;
- x. Report any suspicions promptly and confidentially to your Head of Department, or in the event that the suspicions/allegations involve that person or they are unavailable, to the Safeguarding Officer;
- xi. Deal with information sensitively and be aware that special caution may be required in moments when discussing sensitive issues with children and adults at risk.

**B2. You should not:**

- i. Engage in, or allow, any form of unnecessary physical contact. This would include doing personal things for a child or an adult at risk that they can do for themselves. Where the person is disabled, tasks should only be carried out with the full consent of the individual, (or their parent);
- ii. Use inappropriate language, or allow others to use it without challenging it;
- iii. Allow yourself to be drawn into inappropriate attention-seeking behaviour;
- iv. Show favouritism to any individual;
- v. Rely on the College's good name to protect you;
- vi. Engage in any physical sexual relationship with a person to whom you are in a position of trust, even if they give their consent;
- vii. Give your personal contact details (such as personal phone number, home address, email, Skype address or other communication routes) to a child or adult at risk, or use any unofficial route to communicate with a child or adult at risk;
- viii. Interact in a personal capacity with children or adults at risk outside of the regulated activity, including through any form of social media, for example, by becoming 'friends' on Facebook;
- ix. Allow allegations of inappropriate behaviour to go unchallenged, recorded or acted on;
- x. Allow personal preconceptions about people to prevent appropriate action being taken;
- xi. Accept gifts which could in anyway be considered a bribe or inducement to enter into a relationship or give rise to an allegation of improper conduct against you;
- xii. Take photographs, or make other recordings of at children or adults at risk without specific written consent of the individual, or someone with parental responsibility for that individual.

**B3. You should seek advice from your Head of Department if:**

- i. You suspect a relationship is developing which may be an abuse of trust;
- ii. You are worried that a child or adult at risk is becoming attracted to you or a colleague;
- iii. You think a child or adult at risk has misinterpreted something you have done or said;
- iv. You have had to physically restrain a child or adult at risk to prevent them from harming themselves, another person or causing significant damage to property;
- v. A child or adult at risk tells you that they are being abused, or describes experiences that you consider may be abuse;
- vi. You see suspicious or unexplained marks on a child or adult at risk or witness behaviours which are unusual or inappropriate.

**C. Dealing with disclosures of allegations, or suspicions, of inappropriate behaviour**

- i. Consider the urgency of the situation: in the event there is a risk of immediate serious harm to a child or adult at risk, the emergency services should be contacted via 999. Anybody can make a referral in these circumstances. The relevant Safeguarding Officer should then be notified of the case and will need to determine whether to refer serious cases to the relevant authorities within one working day;
- ii. Remain calm, avoid expressions of anger or upset and ensure that the person knows you are taking them seriously. Reassure them that they are right to have told someone, but do not touch them (for example by putting an arm round them);
- iii. DO NOT try to investigate or act on the matter yourself: doing so may seriously compromise an investigation by the relevant authorities. You need only clarify what is being said to you (in order to establish that there is a suspicion of harm), and then refer the matter to the appropriate individual as set out in the policy;
- iv. Be supportive but DO NOT promise confidentiality. A duty of care obligates the College to act on information where a safeguarding issue has been identified and this takes precedence over the need for confidentiality. Explain that, in order that the allegation can be addressed you will have to talk to other people about it. Explain who you will talk to;

- v. Avoid 'leading' questions, or expressing a view about what you have been told;
- vi. Use clear language, appropriate to the person you are dealing with;
- vii. Do not talk to anyone else about the matter within your Department; if you need to seek support for yourself you should speak to your Head of Department or the Safeguarding Officer;
- viii. Write down what you have been told as soon as possible. In all events this must be done on the same day but this should not delay prompt action. Write down exactly what was said *in the person's own words* as far as possible, include the time, place, and as much detail as you can remember, but ensure that the note is as factual as possible and avoid assumption, speculation or opinion. Sign and date the note. Bear in mind that the note will be disclosable to both internal and external agencies.

## D. Additional guidance for online interactions

### D1. Technical considerations

- i. When choosing a platform for an online session, platforms approved for university use (e.g. Microsoft Teams/Zoom) should be used wherever possible.
- ii. Platforms chosen should have the ability to require a private link or password to enter to ensure that only designated participants are able to access the session.
- iii. Platforms should not enable participants to view personal data of contributors or other participants.
- iv. Platforms should provide the option for managing individuals to remove posts made in online 'chat' functions that contain personal or inappropriate information, and remove/ban individual participants from the session. The ability to have all posts moderated by Sidney Sussex staff before being made public to all participants is desirable.
- v. Video and audio functions should only be enabled for those that are actively expected to contribute to a session in this way, and where possible should be limited to only Sidney Sussex affiliated individuals or invited contributors. (i.e. not general participants). Session leaders should have the ability to mute the audio and video of participants and contributors.

### D2 General considerations

- i. Login information for sessions should only be shared with participants, and not be distributed on social media.
- ii. Contributors should not log in to sessions using personal accounts.
- iii. At least two designated College representatives should be present to lead and monitor the session. At least one of these should have a DBS check and be safeguarding trained where possible.
- iv. Monitoring staff should check the appropriateness of verbal interactions and comments/questions in text chats at all times.
- v. Inappropriate or abusive content of any kind should be reported immediately to the College Safeguarding Officer and service provider once the individual concerned has been removed from the session. Screenshots of the content in questions should be quickly taken before removing the content.
- vi. If at any point the number of College representatives available falls below two, the session should be ended. 1-2-1 interactions of this kind with under-18 year olds that are not members of the College are prohibited.
- vii. Participant audio should only be enabled if necessary for the session to run in the intended manner. If participants under 18 years of age are expected to contribute to a session with audio and/or video elements, permissions should be sought. Additional consent should also be gained if the session is intended to be recorded or distributed in any way.
- viii. Staff engaging in online sessions should ensure that their background does not contain any personal or inappropriate content.

- ix. If contributors intend to share their screens at any point, they must ensure that no personal or inappropriate content is able to be broadcast before doing so.

## **Appendix 2: The Role of Safeguarding Officer**

*This guidance should be read in conjunction with the College's Safeguarding Policy.*

The role of the Safeguarding Officer is as follows:

### **A. To raise awareness by:**

- a) Reviewing on a regular basis the activities of the College involving children or adults at risk;
- b) acting as a senior strategic figurehead for Safeguarding issues at the College;
- c) ensuring that the Safeguarding Policy is implemented, and promulgated;
- d) ensuring regular review of the Safeguarding Policy, at least annually, including making recommendations for the amendment of the Policy in line with changes to legislation, when required.

### **B. To manage referrals by:**

- a) keeping an accurate record of any incidents or matters that raise issues concerning the protection of children or adults at risk, in line with the College's policy on data protection and retention;
- b) advising and taking appropriate action in the event that allegations of abuse are made in the contexts set out in the policy;
- c) liaising with external agencies where appropriate (such as the Police or LCSB); and
- d) ensuring that those involved in any case are appropriately supported.

### **C. To undertake and ensure appropriate training by:**

- a) engaging in training to ensure that knowledge is kept up to date;
- b) ensuring that appropriate information is available, and appropriate training is carried out by members of the College who in the nature of their role will come into contact with adults at risk and children, such roles to be identified by the Safeguarding Officer

### **D. To identify the need for DBS checks:**

The Safeguarding Officer will be responsible for identifying roles within the College for which a DBS check is required, with the responsibility for carrying out the checks delegated to the HR Manager, on notification by the relevant Head of Department.

### **E. To report to Council:**

The Safeguarding Officer will report annually to the College Council on matters concerning the protection of children and adults at risk and on the operation of the College's Safeguarding Policy.

Appendix 3: Risk Assessment Template

Sidney Sussex College							
<b>Risk Assessment Number:</b>		<b>Issue No:</b>	1	<b>Issue Date:</b>		<b>Review Date:</b>	
<b>Title of Risk Assessment:</b>							
<b>Description of Task:</b>							
<b>Frequency of task or date and time of event:</b>							
<b>Additional Information to be read:</b> Documents consulted (guidance, policies, legislation, ACOP):							
<b>Assessor Name:</b>				<b>Assessor Signature:</b>			
<b>Line Manager Name:</b>				<b>Line Manager Signature:</b>			

## Levels of Risk Methodology:

### Risk Assessment Action Plan based on the Risk Level

#### Risk Matrix Findings:

LIKELIHOOD  $\times$  SEVERITY = RISK LEVEL

LIKELIHOOD OF HARM CATEGORIES (L)	SEVERITY OF HARM CATEGORIES (S)		
	SLIGHT HARM (1)	MODERATE HARM (2)	EXTREME HARM (3)
UNLIKELY (1)	Very low risk (1)	Low risk (2)	Medium risk (3)
LIKELY (2)	Low risk (2)	Medium risk (4)	High risk (6)
VERY LIKELY (3)	Medium risk (3)	High risk (6)	Very high risk (9)

Risk Level	TOLERABILITY: guidance on necessary action and timescale
Very low risk	These risks are considered acceptable. No further action is necessary other than to ensure that the controls are maintained.
Low	No additional controls are required unless they can be implemented at very low cost (in terms of time, money and effort). Actions to further reduce these risks are assigned low priority. Arrangements should be made to ensure that the controls are maintained.
Medium	Considerations should be given as to whether the risks can be lowered, where applicable, but the costs of additional risk reduction measures should be considered. The risk reduction measures should be implemented within a defined time period. Arrangements should be made to ensure that the controls are maintained, particularly if the risk levels are associated with harmful consequences.
High risk	Substantial efforts should be made to reduce the risk. Risk reduction measures should be implemented urgently it might be necessary to consider suspending or restricting the activity. Considerable resources might have to be allocated to additional control measures. Arrangements should be made to ensure that the controls are maintained, particularly if the risk levels are associated with very harmful consequences
Very high	These risks are unacceptable. Substantial improvements in risk controls are necessary, so that the risk is reduced to a tolerable or acceptable level. The work activity should be halted until risk controls are implemented that reduces the risk so that it is no longer very high. If it is not possible to reduce risk the work should remain prohibited.



<b>Hazards:</b> <i>If further detailed assessment of, for example, COSHH, manual handling or working at height, is required, then record hazard here but link to the appropriate risk assessments.</i>	<b>Who may be harmed and how?</b>	<b>Existing Controls:</b>	<b>Controlled Risk Level</b>			<b>Further Controls Required</b>
			<b>L</b>	<b>S</b>	<b>Risk Level</b> <b>I</b>	

## Review and revision History

Version	Author	Summary of key change(s)	Sub-committee Review Date / Council Approved	Date by which next review is due
2.0	Admissions Director Registrar/ST/HR Manager	(i) Section added on 'Additional Guidance for Online Interactions' p14 (ii) Comprehensive review of entire policy with focus on identifying roles involved in regulated activity and requiring DBS checks, and role description for safeguarding officer	EdCom 21 May 2021 Council 30 June 2021	
3.0	Registrar/Senior Tutor	Following tutor concerns, further review and discussion of roles involved in regulated activity and requiring DBS check	EdCom 17 Nov 2021 Council 1 Dec 2021 EdCom 7 Feb 2022	
4.0	Registrar/Senior Tutor	Amendments to roles involved in regulated activity at sections 3.5.4 and 3.6.2 Amendments to section 8.1 re DBS checks Amendments to sections covering training and by whom it should be undertaken	EdCom by circulation Pastoral team by circulation Mar 2022 Council 16 March 2022	