Student-Friendly Safeguarding Policy

Date reviewed	Reviewer	Next review date
August 2026	Designated Safeguarding Leads	August 2027

1. Who is a child?

Legally, anyone who is under the age of 18 is considered a child. However, at KTJ, our Safeguarding Policy applies to all our students regardless of their age.

2. What are your rights?

- You deserve to be healthy.
- You deserve to be educated.
- You deserve to be treated fairly.
- You deserve to be heard.
- You deserve a positive childhood experience.

Feel free to refer to the Convention on the Rights of the Child to learn more about your rights.

3. What is safeguarding at KTJ?

We define 'safeguarding' as the actions we take and procedures we put in place to provide a safe environment for you and your friends.

4. What is child protection at KTJ?

We define 'child protection' as the actions we take when you or your friends have been subjected to harm, aiming to protect those students from further harm.

5. How do we safeguard and protect you?

We are committed to ensuring that all students enjoy a safe environment in which they can learn, develop, and flourish. This is achieved through:

- Ensuring that the adults working with you and your friends are trustworthy.
- Providing training to recognise signs of abuse and neglect.
- Ensuring all adults know how to safeguard and protect you.
- Establishing and updating policies to address your concerns.
- Being ready to help you when someone makes you feel unsafe.
- Working with others, such as your family members and local authorities, to ensure your safety.
- Educating you and your friends about staying safe online and offline through PSHE lessons, assemblies, and relevant campaigns.

6. What is abuse?

Abuse happens when someone intentionally hurts you. The person can be someone you know or someone you don't know, and they can be younger or older than you. It can be mean, scary, or make you feel bad. There are five main types:

1. **Physical abuse:** When someone hits, harms, injures, or embarrasses you on purpose.
2. **Emotional abuse:** When someone says or does things that make you feel bad about yourself, causing you to feel scared, sad, upset, or frightened.
3. **Sexual abuse:** When someone touches you or behaves in a way (such as showing you sexually explicit content, engaging you in inappropriate conversation, etc.) that makes you uncomfortable or scared, especially if they tell you to keep it a secret.
4. **Neglect:** When someone doesn't properly take care of you, leaving you feeling abandoned, lonely, or forgotten. This might mean not having enough food or not being able to go to school like you should.
5. **Exploitation:** When someone takes advantage of you for their own benefit, power, or gain. This can happen in person or online and may involve manipulation, threats, gifts, money, attention, or promises to pressure you into doing something.

7. How to safeguard yourself?

There are several actions you can take to safeguard yourself, which you may have learned about from PSHE lessons, school assemblies, and relevant awareness campaigns. It's crucial to put these into practice!

- **Setting boundaries:** Understand that it's okay to set boundaries and say 'no' when you feel uncomfortable or unsafe, like when someone wants you to do something you don't want to.
- **Recognising safe and unsafe touches:** Learn to tell the difference between touches that make you feel comfortable and those that don't. Safe touches feel good and are okay, like a hug from a trusted person. Unsafe touches make you feel scared or uncomfortable, like when someone touches you in a way that feels wrong.
- **Understanding healthy and unhealthy relationships:** Know the difference between good and bad relationships. Good ones are based on respect, trust, and feeling safe and happy. Bad ones might involve someone being mean, controlling, or hurting you.
- **Keeping secrets:** Be careful about keeping secrets, especially if they make you feel bad or scared. Some secrets are okay, but if it feels wrong or someone is getting hurt, it's important to talk to someone you trust.
- **Staying safe online:** Be aware of potential risks when using the internet, such as cyberbullying, scams, and inappropriate content. Take steps to protect your personal information, use strong passwords, exercise caution when sharing your photos, videos, or live location, and report any concerns or suspicious activity to a trusted adult.
- **Reporting your concerns:** If something doesn't feel right or you're worried about yourself or someone else, tell a grown-up you trust. This could be a teacher, counsellor, or parent. It's important to speak up and get help if you need it.

8. What to do if you need to talk to someone?

If you need to talk to someone, we are here to listen. You can talk to any adult in school, such as your teachers, form teachers, houseparents, house staff, counsellors, matrons, Health Centre staff, etc. However, there are a few staff members who have a key responsibility for ensuring you are safe and well-cared for. They are:

If you don't feel like talking to any adults at school, you can also contact:

- Government Welfare Hotline: Talian Kasih 15999 (24 hours)
- Suicide Helpline: Befrienders 03-76272929 (24 hours)
- Children Helpline: Buddy Bears Helpline 1800-18-2327 (6 pm - 12 am)

9. What will happen after you disclose your concerns to a trusted adult at KTJ?

If you talk to an adult at school, they might need to check things with the Safeguarding Team or with your parents. If they can handle it themselves, they will. Remember, all the adults at school are here to help you and make you feel supported and better about the situation.

There are also times when they might need to contact local agencies and authorities for help, such as the government welfare department or the Police. This is because we can't handle everything on our own and need to work with other professionals who are in the best position to help with sorting other things for your best interest.

Don’t worry, your DSL will explain everything to you and help you understand. You can always ask them questions if you are unsure about anything.

10. It is important that you know…

- It is okay to set healthy boundaries, even with your closest friends or family members.
- Experiencing abuse is never your fault.
- You do not need to keep your worries a secret.
- It is not a betrayal to disclose your concerns to a trusted adult.
- There is always someone you can reach out to for help.