



Rugby School

## Risk assessment policy for student welfare

September 2019

## **Responsibility for updating this policy: Deputy Head Pastoral**

### **1 Policy statement**

- 1.1 This is the student welfare policy of Rugby School (the School).
- 1.2 This policy is drawn up and implemented in accordance with the Education (Independent School Standards) Regulations 2016 (the **ISSRs**) and in particular in relation to the Part 3 obligations of the Governing Body to make arrangements to safeguard and promote the welfare of students at the School by the implementation of a written risk assessment policy and the Part 8 obligations of those with leadership and management of the School to actively promote the wellbeing of students.

### **2 Responsibilities**

- 2.1 The Governing Body have overall responsibility for safeguarding and promoting student welfare and well-being at the School.
- 2.2 At an operational level, the Head Master will;
  - 2.2.1 ensure that all staff are aware of, and adhere to, the School's policies and procedures on student health, safety and welfare;
  - 2.2.2 ensure that key staff have clearly established roles and responsibilities;
  - 2.2.3 ensure that staff are appropriately trained to deal with student welfare issues;
  - 2.2.4 ensure that where concerns about a student's welfare are identified, the risks are appropriately managed;
  - 2.2.5 consult with staff, students, parents and others, where appropriate, to find practical solutions to welfare issues;
  - 2.2.6 ensure that standards of student welfare at the School are regularly monitored both at an individual level and globally to identify trends and issues of concern and to improve systems to manage these.
- 3 Those named in paragraph 4.4 have overall responsibility for carrying out risk assessments in relation to the specific matters of student health, safety and welfare covered in those policies. On a day-to-day basis this will be delegated to the relevant Head of Department or Housemaster/Housemistress.

### **4 Student welfare**

- 4.1 The School recognises its responsibility to safeguard and promote the welfare of students in its care. This responsibility encompasses the following principles:
  - 4.1.1 To support students' physical and mental health and emotional wellbeing (as well as their social and economic wellbeing);

- 4.1.2 To protect students from harm and neglect;
  - 4.1.3 To recognise that corporal punishment can never be justified;
  - 4.1.4 To provide students with appropriate education, training and recreation;
  - 4.1.5 To encourage students to contribute to society;
  - 4.1.6 To ensure that students are provided with a safe and healthy environment and to improve the physical environment of the School in order to improve its provision for disabled students;
  - 4.1.7 To manage welfare concerns effectively.
- 4.2 The School addresses its commitment to these principles through:
- 4.2.1 **Prevention** - ensuring that all reasonable measures are taken to minimise the risks of harm to students and their welfare by:
    - (a) Ensuring through training that all staff are aware of and committed to this policy and the values set out;
    - (b) Establishing a positive, supportive and secure environment in which students can learn and develop;
    - (c) Including in the curriculum, activities and opportunities for PSHEe which equip students with skills to enable them to protect their own welfare and that of others;
    - (d) Providing medical and pastoral support that is accessible and available to all students.
  - 4.2.2 **Protection** - ensuring all appropriate actions are taken to address concerns about the welfare of a student, whether of a safeguarding nature or otherwise. This includes:
    - (a) Sharing information about concerns with agencies who need to know and involving students and their parents appropriately;
    - (b) Monitoring students known or thought to be at risk of harm and formulating and/or contributing to support packages for those students.
- 4.3 The School recognises that student welfare and well-being can be adversely affected by many matters whether in or away from school, including abuse, bullying, behavioural and health issues.

- 4.4 The School has developed this policy and the policies in the table below, which set out full details of its procedures to safeguard and promote student health, safety and welfare in accordance with its duties under Part 3 of the ISSRs.

<b>Policy</b>	<b>Responsibility for risk assessments</b>
Safeguarding and Child Protection	Designated Safeguarding Lead (Deputy Head Pastoral)
Anti-bullying	Deputy Head (Pastoral)
Reward and Discipline	Deputy Head (Pastoral)
Health and Safety Policy	COO/Head/Health and Safety Officer
First Aid Policy	Deputy Head (Pastoral)/Health & Safety Officer
Medical Care Policy	Deputy Head (Pastoral)
Supervision	Deputy Head (Pastoral)
Educational Visits Policy	Deputy Head (Pastoral)
Equal Opportunities Policy	Deputy Head

## 5 Risk Assessment

- 5.1 Where a concern about a student's welfare is identified, the risks to that student's welfare will be assessed, appropriate action will be taken to reduce the risks identified, and this will be recorded and then regularly monitored and reviewed.
- 5.2 The format of risk assessment to be used for student welfare is provided on Firefly at: Staff/Health and Safety/Risk Assessment Template which will be amended to show it is an assessment of a welfare issue. The risk assessment should be carried out in accordance with the guidance given at 5 Easy Steps to Risk Assessment on this site. This will help to ensure the School's approach is systematic with a view to promoting student welfare and will run through the stages identified in 4.1
- 5.3 The information obtained through this process and the action agreed will then be shared, as appropriate, with other staff, parents and third parties in order to safeguard and promote the welfare of a particular student or of students generally.
- 5.4 Any serious welfare concerns regarding a student must be raised as soon as reasonably practicable with the Deputy Head (Pastoral) who will work with the Housemaster/Housemistress concerned to resolve the matter.
- 5.5 A copy of the Risk Assessment is to be retained in the Housemaster/Housemistress' records for the student concerned and a copy is to be passed to the Deputy Head (Pastoral) for monitoring purposes.

## **6 Safeguarding/Child Protection**

- 6.1 With regards to safeguarding risks, and in accordance with current statutory guidance, including Keeping Children Safe in Education (KCSiE 2019) and Working Together to Safeguard Children (2018) and Part 3 of the ISSRs, the School has systems in place to identify students who may be in need of extra help, or those who are suffering, or are likely to suffer significant harm, and will take appropriate action to address and mitigate those risks by working in conjunction with social care, the Police, health services and other services, where necessary.
- 6.2 Full details of the School's safeguarding procedures are set out in the Child Protection policy.

## **7 Anti-Bullying**

- 7.1 The School has a written Anti-bullying Policy which covers the School's approach to the management of bullying and cyber bullying.

## **8 Behaviour**

- 8.1 The School has a written Behaviour and Discipline Policy which sets out how it promotes good behaviour amongst students and the sanctions to be adopted in the event of student misbehaviour.

## **9. Equal Opportunities**

- 9.1 The School has a written Equal Opportunities Policy which contains information about the School's performance of its duties under the Equality Act 2010 and the reasonable adjustments made for students with educational needs/disabilities, support systems for students and liaison between parents and other agencies.

## **10 Health and Safety**

- 10.1 In accordance with its obligations under the Health and Safety at Work Act 1974 and with Part 3 of the ISSRs, the School has a duty to ensure the health, safety and welfare of employees and the health and safety of students and others affected by the School's operations, so far as is reasonably practicable.
- 10.2 The School will do so by taking a sensible, proportionate and holistic approach to management of health and safety issues in accordance with the School's obligations and its health and safety policies set out at 4.4.

Authorised Compliance and Risk Committee:	
Date:	25 September 2019