



Learn2work Child protection Policy Statement

Learn2work is the Education Business Link Organisation Consortium for Northumberland and is hosted by Northumberland Business Services Limited.

Learn2work acknowledges it has a responsibility for the safety of children involved in activities either it or its sub-contractors arrange. It also recognises that good child protection policies and procedures are of benefit to everyone involved with learn2work, including staff, as they can help protect them from erroneous or malicious allegations.

Learn2work is committed to practices which protect children from harm.

For the purpose of this policy the expression staff includes not only learn2work's employees but any volunteers or sub-contractors involved in the delivery of learn2work initiated programmes. All Staff who have unsupervised access to or contact with children are required to

- recognise and accept their responsibilities;
- develop awareness of the issues which can cause children harm; and
- report concerns following the procedure below.

Learn2work will endeavour to safeguard children by:

- a) adopting child protection procedures and a code of practice for all who work on behalf of the organisation;
- b) reporting concerns to the authorities;
- c) following carefully procedures for recruitment and selection of staff, sub-contractors and volunteers; and
- d) providing effective management for staff, sub-contractors and volunteers.

Learn2work is also committed to reviewing its Child Protection Policy and Code of Practice at regular intervals.

It is our policy that:

1. All staff working on behalf of learn2work accept responsibility for the welfare of children who come into contact with us in connection with its tasks and functions, and that they will report any concerns about a child or somebody else's behaviour, using the procedures laid down.
2. There are designated child protection person(s) within the schools we work with who will take action following any expression of concern and any incident should be reported to the school the lines of responsibility in respect of child protection are clear.
3. Designated child protection person(s) know how to make appropriate referrals to child protection agencies.
4. All those who are involved with children on behalf of learn2work should adhere to the Code of Practice in relation to children.
5. Information relating to any allegation or disclosure will be clearly recorded as soon as possible, and there is a procedure setting out who should for record information and the time-scales for passing it on.
6. The Children Act 1987 states that the "welfare of the child is paramount". This means that considerations of confidentiality which might apply to other situations should not be allowed to override the right of children to be protected from harm. However, every effort should be made to ensure that confidentiality is maintained for all concerned when an allegation has been made and is being investigated.
7. A culture of mutual respect between children and those who represent learn2work in all its activities will be encouraged, with adults modelling good practice in this context.
8. All staff, volunteers and anyone in paid or unpaid work on behalf of learn2work with unsupervised access to children will be checked appropriately.
9. It is part of learn2work's acceptance of its responsibility of duty of care towards children that anybody who encounters child protection concerns in the context of their work on behalf of learn2work will be supported when they report their concerns in good faith.