

SAFEGUARDING >> **OUR COMMUNITY**



South
Lanarkshire
College

East Kilbride

CHILD PROTECTION AND SAFEGUARDING

The College recognises its obligation outlined in the Protection of Children (Scotland) Act 2003 to protect young people under the age of 18, and vulnerable adults from instances of physical, emotional, sexual or institutional abuse.

It acknowledges the specific needs of young people with disabilities, minority ethnic groups and other groups in society that suffer discrimination and who might be especially vulnerable to abuse. The College has safeguarding and child protection policies and procedures in place to ensure that the appropriate action is taken immediately where a young person or vulnerable adult is suspected of being abused. The prime concern at all times is the safety and interests of young people and vulnerable adults.

All staff undergo enhanced Protecting Vulnerable Group (PVG) disclosure and undertake mandatory safeguarding and child protection training as part of the staff induction process.

There may also be instances when individuals are experiencing issues with physical and mental health and be in crisis. This includes concerns with health and psychological difficulties, anxiety, depression, self-harm or suicide ideation. The College have a number of staff trained in Mental Health First Aid and ASIST (Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training) providing immediate help and support to those who need it.

GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE PREVENTION AND SUPPORT

The College take a zero-tolerance approach to all instances of gender-based violence. In line with the Equally Safe initiative developed by the Scottish Government and COSLA, the College is committed to securing a future where gender-based violence no longer exists. We adopt the Scottish Government's definition that gender-based violence describes a range of behaviours which includes intimidation, harassment, online abuse, intimate image sharing, domestic abuse, physical and emotional abuse, stalking, sexual assault, and murder. The term also includes commercial sexual exploitation and so-called 'honour based' violence, including, female genital mutilation and forced marriages.

We recognise and understand the physical, emotional, and psychological impact that can be experienced by survivors of gender-based violence and are committed to contributing to a safe college community for all staff and students. To help us achieve this vision we have produced a strategy and action plan along with a Gender Based Violence Prevention & Support Policy.

CORPORATE PARENTING

As part of the Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014 Part 9, the College is identified as a 'corporate parent'. These duties and responsibilities ensure the attention and resources of the College is focused on supporting, promoting, and looking after the wellbeing of care experienced young people.

The legislation includes those in foster care, residential care, secure care, looked after at home in compulsory supervision orders and those in formal kinship care. The College recognises that these individuals are among some of the most vulnerable groups in our society, often have complex support needs and may have experienced trauma, loss, or distress. We are committed to taking the necessary actions to promote and support the health and wellbeing of these individuals to ensure they have every opportunity to fulfil their potential and move to a positive outcome.

The College has developed a strategy and action plan on how we plan to facilitate this support.

PREVENT DUTY

The College recognises its obligation to safeguard young people and vulnerable adults from radicalisation, to keep them safe and within the law. The College adheres to the principles outlined in Part V of the Police Act [1997] and Section 26 of the Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015. The Prevent Duty is not about preventing young people and adults from having political and religious views and concerns but about supporting them to use those concerns or act on them in non-extremist ways.

We will:

- provide practical help and support to ensure staff and students are referred onto appropriate sources of advice and guidance.
- provide mandatory staff development to ensure staff have the necessary training to be able to recognise a vulnerability to being drawn into extremism and be aware of what action to take.
- identify and address issues where online materials are accessed on sensitive and extremism related research.

SUPPORT FOR STUDENTS - STUDENT SERVICES

Guidance and Support staff can provide confidential, non-judgemental listening support and offer guidance on next steps, should you wish. This includes access to counselling services and external specialist support agencies.

T: 01355 807780 (ask for Student Services)

E: student.support@slc.ac.uk

STUDENT COUNSELLING SERVICE

The College provides free counselling which is available to all students.

E: student.support@slc.ac.uk

SUPPORT FOR STAFF - HUMAN RESOURCES

Human Resources provide confidential support to staff where you are able to talk over your problems or concerns in private and they can help you get the appropriate support you need.

T: 01355 807780 (ask for Human Resources)

E: human.resources@slc.ac.uk

STAFF EMPLOYEE ASSISTANCE PROGRAMME

The Employee Assistance Programme is a completely free, confidential and impartial service providing information and support on a variety of matters. You may refer yourself confidentially, or seek a referral through Human Resources. The Counselling Service is operated by PAM Assist and can be contacted by telephone on 0800 882 4102. To access www.pamassist.co.uk please log in using the following details: Username – SLCollege Password – SLCollege1

SAFEGUARDING TEAM

For professional and confidential support, contact a member of the College's Safeguarding Team. You will also find information on safeguarding on the College website, Student & Staff Handbook and College Portal.

CONTACT DETAILS

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FOR YOU**

#SLCsupport