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1. Introduction

The purpose of this policy is to ensure staff at Shrewsbury Colleges Group (SCG) safely bring visitors onto the college campuses for the benefit of students and the organisation whilst adhering to the colleges safeguarding procedures. The policy is based on the statutory guidance up to and including September 2022.

The primary aim is to enable staff to continue to meet their statutory duty to 'safeguard' the welfare of children (those under 18) who attend the campuses of SCG. However, we also recognise that some adults are vulnerable to abuse.

This policy will be reviewed on a biennial basis, be made easily available to all staff and students as well as the placed on the college website.

This policy should be read in conjunction with other safeguarding related policies in operation in the college. These include Safer Recruitment, Staff Code of Conduct, Whistleblowing, Looked After Young People (LAYP), Prevent, Student Conduct, Search and Confiscation, Safeguarding, External Speakers

2. Aims

The primary aims of the policy are to:

- Enable staff to meet their statutory responsibility to 'safeguard' the welfare of children (those under 18) and adults with care and support needs in the College whilst enabling visitors to safely attend on site for a variety of reasons
- Provide a safe college environment for children, young people and adults with care and support needs.

3. Definition of a 'Visitor'

A visitor to the College is someone who is attending the college to conduct a college-based service, hold a discussion or provide information who attend on an infrequent basis. Many visitors will make a once only visit for a specific meeting, some will be occasional visitors such as parents or carers or external agencies to discuss student progress/performance/support.

4. Staff Responsibilities for visitors on campus

Shrewsbury Colleges Group works with many external organisations to provide a range of services to students, staff and the college campuses. A Coloured Lanyard system is in place to easily identify who should be on site and for whom the college has DBS records. This information is communicated in student handbooks, on My SCG, on campus posters and banners and website. Anyone who does not meet the identified status on the lanyard colours is classed as a 'visitor'.

All staff have the responsibility to ensure:

- Reception is informed of a visitor attending site to ensure that all visitor records are maintained at reception.
- A visitor is always accompanied on site by a member of staff
- Visitors are not be left alone with students at any time
- Visitors visibly display a 'yellow' lanyard at all times on campus
- Any concerns about a visitor are shared with the Safeguarding team immediately

5. Definitions and Types of Visitors

This policy recognises that there will be regular visitors to college campuses for a variety of reasons. These regular visitors who have business to attend to with students, staff and the campus facilities should have a DBS record held by HR, Safeguarding or Estates teams as appropriate.

Regular visitors should always display the appropriate coloured Lanyard whilst on college premises. Visitors who wear one of the coloured lanyards identified below are able to be on campus without supervision.

The relevant lanyard colours are:

- Orange – Volunteers / Approved Associates
- White – Agency staffing
- Black – Contractors
- Pink – Auditors
- Teal – Governors
- Yellow Lanyards are for people who visit as an occasional occurrence and for whom the college does not have DBS information so should always be accompanied and not left alone with students.

Parents of students visiting the college must wear a yellow Lanyard and be escorted by a member of staff whilst on site.

- Staff wear red lanyards.
- Students wear blue.

In addition, an external speaker attending college for a course activity must be approved to be on campus using the External Speakers Policy.

When the campus is closed to students (for example during a college holiday period when students are not present), and therefore no regulated activity is occurring, contractors without a DBS record do not need to be accompanied at all times and may be allowed to

work without direct supervision. To ensure that no regulated activities occur when a contractor without a DBS is to be allowed to work when unaccompanied, permission must be requested by the Estates teams and approval provided in advance by the VP Students and Partnerships or AP of Curriculum Support. This is in line with the Keeping Children Safe in Education guidance for regulated activity.

6. Visitor procedure

Visitors can be allocated a visitor parking space through the estates team at each campus, spaces will be provided based on availability.

Visitors must:

- register their car registration number at reception as they sign into the College
- Sign in at reception completing the visitor register
- read the college visitor information sheet 'keeping you safe'
- Complete questionnaires as relevant, such as in a Pandemic
- Remain with a member of staff at all times

7. Guidance for Staff

If you are concerned that a child or vulnerable adult within the College has suffered maltreatment relating to a visitor on campus you should report the concern. It doesn't matter how insignificant the concern may seem.

A general principle of 'it could happen here' should be followed.

The concerns should be raised with a line manager, member of the Safeguarding Team or the Senior Leadership Team. In a holiday period the College Duty Manager should be informed. Duty rota details are held at reception.