

**COOMBE SECONDARY SCHOOLS ACADEMY TRUST**

**SAFEGUARDING STATEMENT**

The governors and staff of Coombe Secondary Schools Academy Trust (hereafter referred to as Coombe) fully recognise the contribution it makes to safeguarding children. We recognise that all staff, teaching and non-teaching, including volunteers, have a full and active part to play in protecting our pupils from harm.

All staff and Governors believe that our school should provide a caring, positive safe and stimulating environment which promotes the social, physical and moral development of the individual child.

Mary Henderson is the lead Governor and she has been nominated to liaise with the LADO, when necessary.

The aims of this policy are:

- To support the child's development in ways that will foster security, confidence and independence
- To raise the awareness of both teaching and non-teaching staff of the need to safeguard children and of their responsibilities in identifying and reporting possible cases of abuse.
- To provide a systematic means of monitoring children known or thought to be at risk of harm.
- To emphasise the need for good levels of communication between all members of staff.
- To develop a structured procedure within the school which will be followed by all members of the school community in cases of suspected abuse.
- To develop and promote effective working relationships with other agencies, especially the Police and Social Services
- To ensure that all adults within our school who have access to children have been checked as to their suitability
- To raise awareness of safeguarding among our pupils and to equip them with the skills to keep them safe