UTC Swindon Safeguarding Procedures

Off Site Reporting

If you have a safeguarding concern at UTC Swindon, please call: 01793 207920 and ask to speak to the DSL or a member of the safeguarding team. If out of school hours, please email the DSL (Leonie) lmarvell@utcswindon.co.uk

On Site Reporting

Please report to reception and they will put in contact with a member of the safeguarding team, and you will be able to share your concerns.

Our UTC Safeguarding team are:

- Leonie Marvell – Head of KS4 and Designated Safeguarding lead
- Hollie Taylor – Headteacher
- Marek Koza– Deputy Headteacher
- Byron Calderwood – Assistant Principle
- Sarah Crookes – Head of KS5
- Jayne Rafferty – SENCO
- Gareth Lister – Safeguarding Governor

Is the child in immediate danger? If yes, contact the Police on 999. The Police can be contacted 24 hours a day, 365 days of the year.

We work with local authorities. If you wish to discuss a safeguarding concern about a member of staff or volunteer, please contact the LADO (Local Authority Designated Officer). The LADO's in our local teams are:

- Swindon – 01793 463854 or LADO@swindon.gov.uk
- Wiltshire – 01225 718825 or LADO@wiltshire.gov.uk

MASH (Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub)
Primary goal is to protect vulnerable children and young people by providing a rapid and effective response to new safeguarding concerns.

The MASH team operates during the following hours:

- Monday to Thursday: 8.30am to 4.40pm
- Friday: 8.30am to 4.00pm

You can reach the team by:

- Phone: 01793 464646 (choose option 2)
- Email: contactchildrenandfamilies@swindon.gov.uk

For out of hours support in Swindon contact: The Emergency Duty Service (EDS) who provide an emergency contact point for all aspects of social work in Swindon outside normal office hours. This includes cover during the night, weekends and bank holidays. The Emergency Duty Service is available on 01793 445500 and choose **option 4** to reach the out-of-hours Emergency Duty Safeguarding team.

The out of hours team is available:

- Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday 5.00pm to 8.30am
- Friday 4.30pm to 8.30am the following working day
- 24 hours a day on bank holidays

Other support available

NSPCC - 0808 800 5000

ChildLine - 0800 1111

You can access our safeguarding and child protection policy by clicking here:

https://www.alet.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/sites/3/2025/09/GOV007_V10_Safeguarding-and-Child-Protection-Policy-July-2025.pdf

You can access our whistleblowing policy by clicking here:

https://www.alet.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/sites/3/2023/11/GOV012_V4_Whistle-blowing-Policy.pdf

If you need to contact the safeguarding team out of hours, please email: lmarvell@utcswindon.co.uk

Local Police Context

Criminal Exploitation is a key priority for Swindon/Wiltshire Police. Any child can become a victim of exploitation; it can be difficult to spot.

What is child criminal exploitation?

"Child criminal exploitation is common in county lines and occurs where an individual or group takes advantage of an imbalance of power to coerce, control, manipulate or deceive a child or young person under the age of 18. The victim may have been criminally exploited even if the activity appears consensual. Child criminal exploitation does not always involve physical contact; it can also occur through the use of technology."

Common signs of exploitation include:

- New possessions with an unknown origin (mobile phones, shoes, clothes or money)
- The use and/or possession of drugs and/or alcohol
- Secrecy around social media or getting lots of messages/calls
- The possession of multiple mobile phones /electrical devices
- Significant emotional changes
- Unexplained physical harm/injuries
- Health problems resulting from sexual activity
- Being absent from school
- Being disruptive in school
- Decline in mental health / self-harm
- Using new terminology or different languages
- Disappearing from the home and their location being unknown or being found away from their normal area
- Not returning to the home at the expected time
- New relationships (particularly with older people)

If you are observing changes or signs like the above in your child and you are concerned, you should speak to your child regarding your concerns. No one knows your child better than you, follow your instincts. If you identify potential exploitation or have concerns you can seek help from the police, your GP or your child's school. It does not matter if

you ask for help and it transpires that your child was not being exploited, you will not have wasted people's time. If you feel your child is in immediate risk of harm, contact the police straight away, on 999.

Knife Crime

Knife crime is a real and growing concern to many in our community. Parents and adults may not be aware that young children and teenagers are carrying knives in fear "for their safety". The community knife amnesty bins is a collaborative initiative by Wiltshire Police and is an excellent initiative to help get knives off our streets.

Knife crime is clearly a difficult and frightening subject to address but in order to protect our children it is imperative that we spread the word to all in our community that knives ruin lives.

Helpful organisations:

Fearless – 0800 555 111 or visit https://crimestoppers-uk.org/fearless