

Safeguarding Statement - Our Commitment to Safeguarding

Richards Specialist Education Ltd

Former SEND Headteacher Delivering Specialist EOTAS Provision

Richards Specialist Education Ltd is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people. The safety, wellbeing and protection of every child and young person is central to our values, decision-making and practice.

We recognise that safeguarding is everyone's responsibility and that effective safeguarding is built on strong relationships, professional curiosity, clear procedures and a culture where concerns are acted upon promptly and appropriately.

All services are delivered with safeguarding as a core priority and in accordance with relevant legislation, statutory guidance and best practice.

Safeguarding Framework

Richards Specialist Education Ltd is committed to operating in accordance with:

- Keeping Children Safe in Education (KCSIE) 2026
- Working Together to Safeguard Children
- The Children Act 1989 and 2004
- Working Together guidance issued by HM Government
- UK GDPR and the Data Protection Act 2018
- Relevant safeguarding guidance issued by Local Authorities
- NSPCC safeguarding guidance and training materials

The company will review safeguarding arrangements regularly and update policies and procedures to reflect changes in legislation, statutory guidance, emerging risks and local safeguarding priorities.

Professional Development and Training

Richards Specialist Education Ltd believes that effective safeguarding relies upon continuous professional development.

Safeguarding training is maintained through regular professional learning, including training provided by the NSPCC. The organisation holds NSPCC safeguarding certificates and is committed to ensuring safeguarding knowledge remains current and evidence-informed.

Training and professional development will be reviewed regularly to ensure compliance with current statutory guidance and best practice.

Local Safeguarding Arrangements

The company recognises the importance of local safeguarding procedures and partnerships.

Where services are delivered within specific geographical areas, safeguarding procedures will be aligned with local arrangements and guidance, including those published by:

- Kent Safeguarding Children Multi-Agency Partnership
- Medway Safeguarding Children Partnership
- Relevant Local Authority safeguarding teams
- Local safeguarding policies and procedures where applicable

Local policies and guidance will be adapted and incorporated where appropriate to ensure best practice and effective multi-agency working.

Safer Working Practice

Richards Specialist Education Ltd is committed to maintaining high standards of professional conduct.

This includes:

- Enhanced DBS checks where required
- Appropriate safeguarding training
- Professional boundaries
- Risk assessment processes

- Information sharing in accordance with safeguarding requirements
- Secure handling of personal information
- Ongoing review of safeguarding practice

Working with Children, Families and Professionals

The organisation works collaboratively with:

- Local Authorities
- Schools
- Families
- Virtual Schools
- Health professionals
- Social care professionals
- Other relevant agencies

Where safeguarding concerns arise, information will be shared appropriately and in accordance with statutory guidance to protect children and young people from harm.

Reporting Concerns

Any safeguarding concern involving a child or young person will be taken seriously.

Where necessary, concerns may be shared with:

- Children's Social Care
- Local Authority safeguarding teams
- Police
- Health professionals
- Other relevant safeguarding agencies

The welfare of the child will always remain the primary consideration.

Complaints

Richards Specialist Education Ltd welcomes feedback and is committed to maintaining high standards of professional conduct and safeguarding practice.

Any safeguarding-related concern or complaint will be managed through the organisation's complaints procedures and, where appropriate, may be referred to relevant agencies for further investigation.

Information regarding safeguarding complaints and concerns can be requested directly from the company.

Continuous Improvement

Safeguarding is not a one-off activity but an ongoing responsibility.

Richards Specialist Education Ltd is committed to:

- Reviewing safeguarding arrangements regularly
- Monitoring updates to KCSIE and Working Together guidance
- Implementing lessons learned from safeguarding reviews
- Maintaining professional development through recognised providers, including the NSPCC
- Ensuring policies and procedures remain effective and current

Contact Information

For safeguarding enquiries, please contact:

Richards Specialist Education Ltd
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Safeguarding Commitment

Richards Specialist Education Ltd is committed to creating safe, supportive and inclusive environments where children and young people can engage, learn and thrive. Safeguarding remains at the heart of everything we do.