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LSJS

London School of Jewish Studies

Adult Safeguarding Policy

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1. *Scope of policy*

The London School of Jewish Studies (LSJS) has legal responsibilities to take appropriate safeguarding action in relation to signs and symptoms of:

- Abuse of adults at risk
- Female genital mutilation
- Honour-based violence and forced marriage
- Modern slavery
- Radicalisation

Legal safeguarding duties apply to an adult at risk. An adult at risk is someone aged

18 years or over who is, or may be, in need of community care services by reason of mental or other disability, age or illness; and who is or may be unable to take care of themselves, or unable to protect themselves against significant harm or exploitation.

LSJS is primarily an adult environment and recognising an adult at risk can be difficult. To appropriately identify adults who may be at risk, we consider three questions:

- Does the adult have need for specific care and support?
- Is the adult experiencing, or at risk of experiencing, abuse or neglect?
- As a result of their support needs, are they unable to protect themselves from the risk of abuse or neglect?

Outside of the direct scope of this adult safeguarding policy for adults at risk, see the Preventing Bullying, Harassment and Sexual Misconduct Policy for procedures to create a safe environment for students and staff to learn and thrive at LSJS.

For Child Protection and Safeguarding, see the relevant LSJS Policy here.

2. Safeguarding principles

LSJS follows the six safeguarding principles set out in the Care Act 2014:

- Empowerment. People are supported and encouraged to make their own decisions and informed consent
- Prevention. It is better to act before harm occurs
- Proportionality. The least intrusive response appropriate to the risk presented
- Protection. To support and protect those in greatest need.
- Partnership. Working collaboratively with other agencies
- Accountability. To be transparent about, and responsible for, our safeguarding practices

LSJS will ensure any partners it engages with have a safeguarding policy.

Safeguarding is everyone's business. All staff and longer-term programme students are required to read and understand this policy.

Any person may report safeguarding concerns directly to an external body such as Social Services or the Police. For cases involving students and staff at LSJS, responsibilities set out in this policy still apply.

3. Using the safeguarding policy – an overview

LSJS is committed to providing a safe and secure environment for all students, employees and individual visitors who access its facilities and services and acknowledges its responsibility to safeguard the wellbeing of adults at risk engaged in the range of the institution's activities.

This is achieved by ensuring that there are appropriate arrangements in place to enable LSJS to discharge its duty to provide a safe and secure environment, to prevent abuse, and to respond appropriately to suspected or reported abuse of adults at risk.

This policy is intended to provide a framework for employees in the unlikely event that a safeguarding issue arises and to provide a framework to help LSJS prevent occurrences.

This policy has been considered in line with the institution's statutory obligations under the Care Act (2014) to protect the welfare of adults at risk.

Definitions

The definition of an **adult at risk** is an adult who needs community care services because of mental or other disability, age or illness and who is, or may be, unable to take care of themselves against significant harm or exploitation. This term replaces "vulnerable adult".

The definition of **regulated activity** relating to adults no longer labels adults as vulnerable but defines the activities which might lead to an adult being considered at risk at that particular time. The focus is on the activities required by an adult and not on the setting in which the activity is received. The activities which may render an adult at risk are the provision of assistance with:

- Healthcare
- Personal care
- General household matters e.g., with cash, bills and/or shopping
- Conducting their own affairs
- Transport to a place where they will receive healthcare, personal care or social care

Safeguarding is described as putting in place arrangements to take all reasonable measures to ensure that risks of harm to adults at risk are minimised.

Research projects or programmes involving children and adults at risk require Ethics Committee approval to ensure compliance with statutory requirements and best practice guidelines.

4. Aims of the policy

LSJS aims to ensure that all those working with adults at risk:

- Are aware of their statutory responsibilities for safeguarding
- Contribute to providing a safe environment in which adults at risk can learn
- Are trained to recognise such safeguarding issues
- Understand how these responsibilities are carried out, taking appropriate action in a timely manner that safeguards and promotes vulnerable adults' welfare
- Are trained to report safeguarding issues

- Maintain a vigilant attitude, where safeguarding is concerned

5. Record keeping

It is vital that accurate records are kept in safeguarding cases.

Where there is a safeguarding concern the institution may share information with other agencies in order to address the risk of harm.

The LSJS Designated Safeguarding Leads are the appropriate people to make this decision.

If risk is present, or imminent, then this would be an emergency situation and any staff member can call the emergency services. Confidentiality is important but imminent safeguarding risk overrides confidentiality.

Reports will be securely kept and retained only as long as necessary, in line with the institution's retention schedule.

6. Prevention

DBS checks will be carried out in line with the LSJS DBS policy.

A risk assessment will be carried out for organised activities on campus and any activities organised off campus to ensure the safety of adults at risk.

7. Radicalisation and safeguarding

Section 26 of the Counter Terrorism and Security Act 2015 places a duty on Higher Education Institutions in the exercise of their functions *to have due regard to the need to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism.*

LSJS recognises the positive contribution it can make towards protecting its students from radicalisation to violent extremism.

We are committed to our responsibilities under the Prevent Duty for Higher Education Institutions (2021).

We will continue to support and empower our students to create communities that are resilient to extremism and protect the wellbeing of students who may be vulnerable to being drawn into violent extremism or crime. We will endeavour to promote the development of spaces for free debate where shared values can be reinforced.

Radicalisation is the process by which individuals come to support terrorism or violent extremism. There is no typical profile for a person likely to become involved in extremism, or for a person who moves to adopt violence in support of their particular ideology.

Staff awareness and reporting procedures are guided by the LSJS Prevent Policy which can be found here. Examples of concerning behaviour which may lead to further appropriate investigation and action are:

- Use of inappropriate language
- Possession of violent extremist literature
- Behavioural changes
- The expression of extremist views
- Advocating violent actions and means
- Association with known extremists
- Seeking to recruit others to an extremist ideology

If staff have any significant concerns about a student beginning to support terrorism and/or violent extremism, they should raise them with the Prevent Lead or a Designated Safeguarding Lead, who can work together with external partners to address the issues.

Where there are shared concerns that a student is displaying behaviour or characteristics associated with being susceptible to radicalisation, Prevent or Designated Safeguarding Lead may seek advice from a relevant external agency whose role it is to assess the nature and extent of the risk of individuals being vulnerable to being drawn into terrorism.

To ensure the institution works collaboratively with partners committed to the Prevent agenda the Prevent Lead will maintain links and relationships with relevant Prevent leads in the Police and Local Authority.

Throughout, the approach taken will be a supportive one, the priority being to ensure that the student is safeguarded from harm.

8. Legislation, statutory guidance, advice and useful references

To safeguard and protect the welfare of adults at risk, LSJS staff will act in accordance with the following statutory documents, guidance documents and legislation:

Staff are reminded to follow any additional statutory, guidance or advice documents that are not listed here but are published during the course of the year or from time-to-time, even if temporary.

- The Care Act (2014)
- Sexual Offences Act (2003)
- Higher education coronavirus (COVID-19) operational guidance (2021)
- Section 26, The Counter Terrorism and Security Act 2015 (PREVENT duty) and Statutory guidance on the Prevent Duty (2021) which explains HEI duties under the Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015 with respect to protecting people from the risk of radicalisation and extremism
- Female Genital Mutilation Act 2003 (Section 74 ,Serious Crime Act 2015)
- Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014, which makes it a criminal offence to force someone to marry. Includes taking someone overseas to force them to marry
- Serious Violence Strategy 2018
- Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974, which outlines when people with criminal convictions can work with children
- The government's information sharing advice for safeguarding practitioners can be found at https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/safeguarding-practitioners-information-sharing-advice

9. Key contacts

- Designated Safeguarding Lead, LSJS, Jonny Atkins, Head of Initial Teacher Training Programmes – jonny.atkins@lsjs.ac.uk
- Designated Safeguarding Lead, LSJS, Paul Gould, Chief Operating Officer – paul.gould@lsjs.ac.uk

- Prevent Lead, LSJS, Dani Serlin, Head of Academic Services – dani.serlin@lsjs.ac.uk

Signed on behalf of the LSJS Senior Leadership Team by Paul Gould, Chief Operating Officer

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