

	Title:	Safeguarding Policy			Ref:	POL-001	UKSA
	Type:	Policy	Version:	4	In effect from:	13/02/2026	
Caring	Approved by: Chris Frisby						

UKSA is committed to safeguarding children and adults and actively seeks to create a safe and welcoming environment. Doing nothing is not an option

Policy Statement

As defined in the Children Act 1989, for the purposes of this policy anyone under the age of 18 should be considered as a child. The policy also applies to adults with care and support needs, who are defined as individuals aged 18 and over and who are acknowledged as requiring additional support due to differing care and support needs.

For children's safeguarding, this policy and PRO-020 Safeguarding Procedure has been informed by Keeping children safe in education 2022 and updates from 2024, Working together to safeguard children 2018 and updated guidance from 2023, along with other guidance provided by the Isle of Wight local authority and the local safeguarding children partnership (LSCP) and the Hampshire, IOW, Portsmouth and Southampton (HIPS) Policy and procedure guidance.

For adult safeguarding, UKSA follows statutory guidance issued under the Care Act 2014, along with best practice and guidance from the local authority and the local safeguarding adults board (Isle of Wight) and the 4LSAB (Hampshire, IOW, Portsmouth and Southampton) multi-agency safeguarding adults' board.

For all students, UKSA works closely with the IW College and other agencies including the police, social services and health and mental health services to promote the welfare of each individual student in order to safeguard them and to protect them from harm.

This policy will be reviewed as deemed necessary through changes in law, statutory guidance and good practice but at least annually.

Visitor Access and Safeguarding Risk

As a private education and residential setting, UKSA has a clear legal duty under the Children Act 1989 and applicable safeguarding guidance—including *Keeping Children Safe in Education*—to ensure that our premises remain a safe environment for children, young people and adults with care and support needs.

In line with this duty, UKSA may restrict or prohibit access to any person where safeguarding concerns exist. This includes circumstances in which a person is known to be on the Sex Offenders Register (SOR) or is subject to a statutory order such as a Sexual Harm Prevention Order. While being on the SOR does not, by itself, impose a universal legal ban on entering education settings, UKSA has the lawful authority to control access to its premises and to refuse entry where doing so is necessary to protect the welfare of those on site.

UKSA will apply this authority in a way that reflects best practice and statutory expectations—acting proportionately, basing decisions on safeguarding risk, and ensuring that any restrictions are appropriate to the circumstances. The Safeguarding Procedure (PRO-020) sets out the process through which such decisions are made and the actions required when managing persons who may pose a safeguarding concern.

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UKSA actively seeks to:

- Create a safe and welcoming environment, both on and off the water, where participants can have fun and develop their skills and confidence
- Recognise that safeguarding students is the responsibility of everyone, not just those who work directly with children and adults with care and support needs.
- Ensure that UKSA organised training and activities are run to the highest possible safety standards.
- Continually review its way of working to incorporate best practice and share and communicate this information with staff.
- Adhere to the relevant guidelines for safeguarding from governing bodies and external agencies including the RYA (Royal Yachting Association) and Local Authority guidance for schools and colleges.

UKSA will:

- Treat all students with respect and dignity and celebrate their achievements.
- Carefully recruit and select all employees in line with safer recruitment processes, contracted instructors and third parties and provide them with appropriate training and information.
- Respond swiftly and appropriately to all complaints and concerns about poor practice or suspected or actual abuse and securely record this on CPOMS.

This policy relates to all employees, contracted instructors and third parties who work with children or adults with care and support needs in the course of their duties with UKSA. It will be kept under periodic review.

All relevant concerns, allegations, complaints and their outcome should be notified to the Director of Training & Operations at UKSA, who is the Designated Safeguarding Officer 'DSO'. In the absence of the Director of Training the Deputy DSO will cover this role.

This Policy should be read in line with UKSA's PRO-020 Safeguarding Procedure.



Signature:

Date: 13th February 2026

Name: Catherine Dixon

Position: Chief Executive