

Arkana College Statement of Commitment to Child Safety



OUR PUBLIC COMMITMENT TO CHILD SAFETY

We have a zero tolerance for child abuse and are committed to acting in children's best interests and keeping them safe from harm.

Grounded in the principles of our Islamic faith and guided by prophetic character, Arkana College is committed to ensuring the safety and wellbeing of all children and young people. Reflecting our vision, mission, and core values, our dedication extends beyond mere protection to the cultivation of an environment where every child feels valued, respected, and empowered to reach their fullest potential.

Our commitment to children and young people is deeply rooted in our Islamic faith with the intention to:

- Provide a safe and child-friendly, nurturing environment that reflects the teachings of our Prophet Muhammad (PBUH), characterised by compassion, empathy, and humility.
- Provide a safe and supportive environment where children and young people can thrive to be pioneers of the future, inspired by our Islamic faith, driven to achieve for the betterment of humanity.
- Guarantee that their experiences are free from any form of harmful conduct, such as abuse, neglect, or grooming.
- Empower children and young people to speak up and respond to any behaviour that makes them feel uncomfortable or unsafe.
- Ensure that children and young people are aware of who they can approach if they have any concerns about their safety or wellbeing.
- Offer age- and ability-appropriate codes of conduct to everyone involved with Unity Grammar.
- Establish a robust reporting framework to make it easy for anyone to report concerns, ensuring timely and fair responses, appropriate documentation, and referral to relevant authorities when necessary.
- Provide support to any child or young person who reports or is suspected of being exposed to concerning conduct, including abuse, neglect, or grooming.

In alignment with our core values, we pledge to:

- Empower children and young people to recognise and respond to any behaviour that contradicts the principles of prophetic character, thereby fostering a community where respect and dignity prevail.
- Equip children and young people with the knowledge and resources to seek assistance and support if they ever feel unsafe or encounter situations that challenge their wellbeing.
- Implement age-appropriate educational initiatives that instil the values of prophetic character, resilience, and self-advocacy, empowering children and young people to navigate life's challenges with confidence and integrity.
- Hold ourselves accountable in the workplace to the principles outlined in the Unity Playbook in our interactions with others.

Our commitment to parents, carers, families, and the broader community is evident through:

- Open and transparent communication regarding our efforts to create a safe and inclusive environment that honours the Islamic principles of compassion, justice, and mercy.
- Collaborative partnerships that engage families and the community in safeguarding initiatives, recognising that protecting children is a collective responsibility entrusted to us by our faith and values.

Proud of our Islamic heritage, we are committed to:

- Cultivating a culture of accountability and vigilance, where all members of the Arkana College community are active participants in safeguarding children and young people.
- Investing in ongoing education and training to ensure that staff, volunteers, and stakeholders are equipped with the knowledge and skills necessary to uphold the highest standards of child safety.

To uphold these commitments, Arkana College adheres to stringent child safe standards, including:

- Clear and accessible codes of conduct for all stakeholders.
- Rigorous recruitment processes, including Working with Children Checks (WWCC) and relevant screening procedures.
- Comprehensive induction programs and ongoing training on child safety protocols.
- Proactive measures to prevent and address any concerning conduct involving children and young people.
- Transparent reporting mechanisms and timely response to any safeguarding concerns or allegations.

At Arkana College, safeguarding children and young people is not only a duty, it is guided by our school values and principles of the Islamic faith.