

North East Uni Connect Programme Safeguarding Statement

What is the North East Uni Connect Programme?

The North East Uni Connect Programme (NEUCP) is a regional collaboration of the universities and colleges in the North East, working together to support young people in the region to consider higher education as an option for them. The Partnership is working together to deliver a targeted programme of information and support relating to higher education options in the region. This activity is part of the National Uni Connect Programme funded by the Office for Students (OfS).

Purpose of Document

The NEUCP Partnership delivers a variety of events and activities to young people under the age of 18 in-school, at a university or college campus and at external locations. Staff involved in delivery are employed in a number of institutions across the Partnership. The Partnership may also employ student workers and, from time to time, may contract external organisations to deliver activities on its behalf, during which they too will have contact with young people. This document therefore seeks to provide clarity for all involved on the appropriate procedures relating to child safeguarding, in particular where joint working occurs. For the purposes of this document the term 'staff' refers to employees of the NEUCP Partnership, student workers and externally contracted organisations working on behalf of NEUCP.

The information outlined within this statement is based on the Department for Education's statutory guidance, [Keeping Children Safe in Education](#) and [Working Together to Safeguard Children](#) and is therefore within the requirements of HM OFSTED Inspections and ensures the Partnership is following processes appropriate for NEUCP partner schools and multi-academy trusts.

Principles

The safety and welfare of young people is a primary concern of the NEUCP Partnership. It is committed to ensuring that all students enjoy the best possible experience of NEUCP activities in a safe and secure environment. The Partnership also wishes to provide reassurance for staff by ensuring that appropriate systems are in place to support them in working with young people.

Statement

The universities and colleges in the North East that form the NEUCP Partnership each have their own institutions' policies and procedures in place relating to safeguarding as is their legal duty. This document is not intended to replace those policies. All staff are advised to familiarise themselves with, and to adhere to, their own institution's policy and procedures in all aspects of working with young people in the course of their NEUCP role. They should identify the contact details for their designated point of contact should a disclosure or cause for concern arise. For staff working as part of the NEUCP Schools' Programme, further clarification is included at Appendix 1.

Disclosure Barring Service (DBS)

All staff employed to work on behalf of the NEUCP Partnership will be subject to DBS checks via their employing institution as part of their contract of employment and will be recruited following safer recruitment practices. Staff are also responsible for informing their employer if there is any change in their circumstances which may affect their clearance. Student staff who participate in delivery of the programme are required to adhere to the code of conduct set by their employing institution or for the event/activity at which they are working.

Training

All staff employed to work on behalf of the NEUCP Partnership will receive appropriate safeguarding awareness training as outlined in their employing institution's safeguarding policy.

Designated Safeguarding Officers (DSOs)

Key personnel in the NEUCP Central Team are appointed DSOs to act as lead persons responsible for providing advice on safeguarding matters, and handling and processing any disclosure or cause for concern brought to the attention of the NEUCP Central Team as a matter of urgency. DSOs will receive appropriate safeguarding training commensurate for the role. Availability of DSOs should be fully considered when planning events/activities.

Where to go for Advice Following a Safeguarding Incident

In the event of a safeguarding disclosure or cause for concern being raised, staff working on the NEUCP programme should follow the process outlined in Appendix 1 which details who to contact for advice and support. Contact details for key personnel/agencies is included in Appendix 2. In the case for a concern being raised out of normal office hours, further contacts and sources of support are provided in Appendix 3.

Safeguarding Online

Safeguarding and the protection of young people remains a priority for the NEUCP Partnership. Alternative provision has been developed with consideration of the safety and welfare of all users, including ensuring accessibility and security measures for any online provision. In the event that a safeguarding disclosure or cause for concern is raised, the person(s) should contact the DSOs identified in Appendix 2.

Allegations or Concerns of Inappropriate Behaviour Involving Staff or FutureMe Mentors

Allegations or concerns involving a member of staff or FutureMe Mentor and a person under 18 should be reported following the employing institution's human resource and safeguarding policies, with advice taken from the Local Authority Designated Officer and, where appropriate, inform the NEUCP Head of Regional Partnerships.

Control and Review

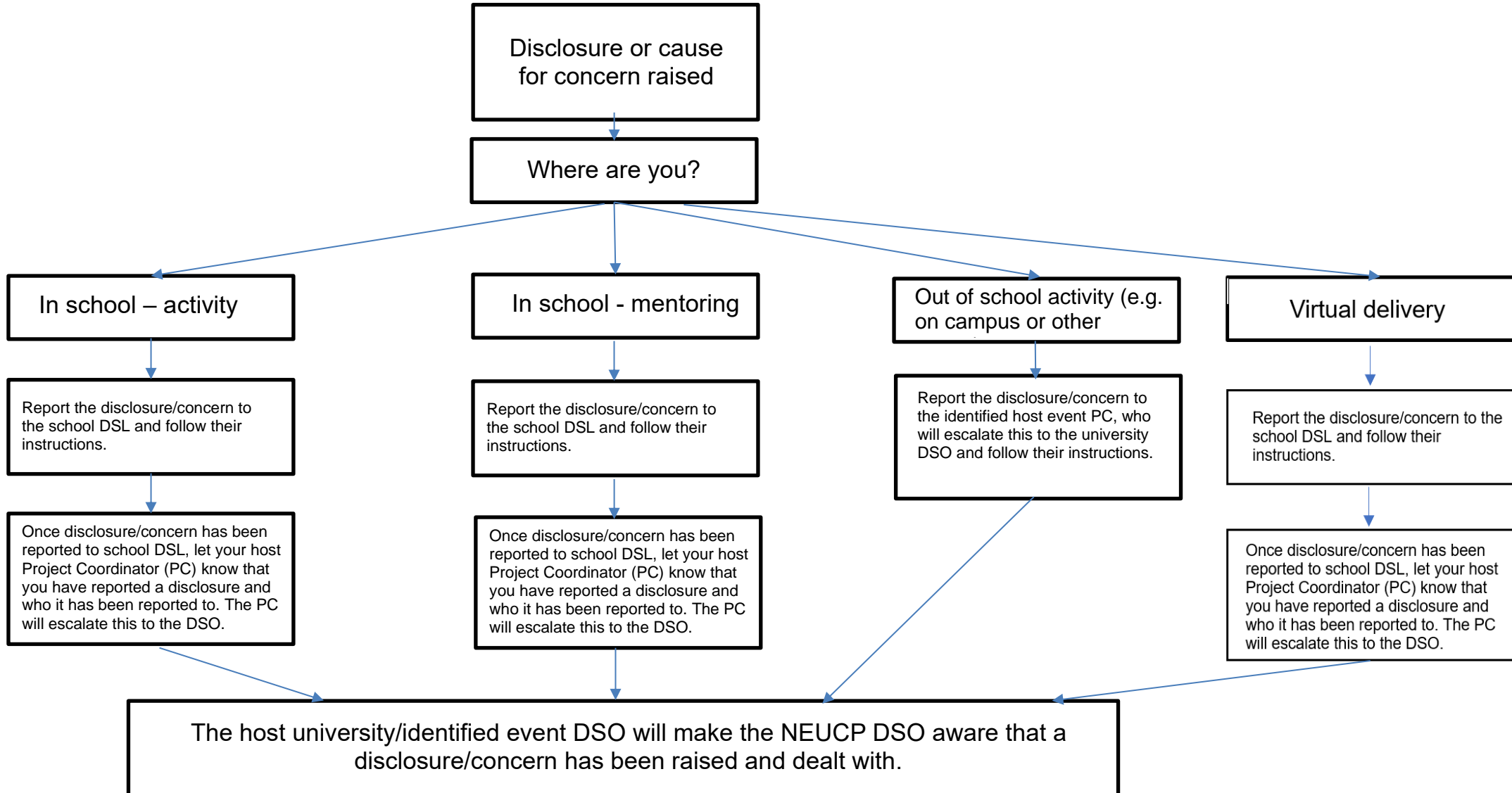
This statement has been agreed by the NEUCP University Leads Group. The Group will be responsible for ensuring it is reviewed in response to any legal or other developments in this area and that staff are informed of any changes. It will also be reviewed annually to ensure that the policy still fits within the organisation of the NEUCP Partnership.

Publication

A copy of this Safeguarding Statement will be made available on the NEUCP website at www.futureme.ac.uk.

NEUCP Schools Programme (including Schools with Sixth Forms)

For NEUCP staff and FutureMe Mentors working on the schools' programme (including schools with sixth forms) the following flowchart provides further clarity on who to inform in the event of a disclosure or if a cause for concern is raised.



NEUCP Designated Safeguarding Officer Contact Details

Name	Position	Tel No	Email Address
Tanya Harrison	Project Manager (Schools)	01642 738119	tanya.harrison@tees.ac.uk
Rachel Morrison	Senior Project Coordinator (Schools)	01642 342018	r.morrison@tees.ac.uk
Lucy Busfield	Project Coordinator (Schools)	01642 738614	l.busfield@tees.ac.uk

Details of where to find further support

Name	Position	Tel No	Email Address
University Contacts			
Sam Dale	Durham University	0191 334 6120	Director.wellbeing@durham.ac.uk
Jack Chamberlain	Newcastle University	0191 208 5527	Jack.Chamberlain@newcastle.ac.uk
Laura Jobling	Northumbria University		l.jobling@northumbria.ac.uk
Wendy Price	University of Sunderland	0191 515 3802	wendy.price@sunderland.ac.uk
Gary Crawley	Teesside University	01642 384 272	gary.crawley@tees.ac.uk
Other Contacts			
	NSPCC Helpline	0808 800 5000	

Local Authority Contacts including Out of Hours Support

Area	Team	Tel No
Durham	First Contact	03000 267 979 (option 3)
	Local Authority Designated Officer	03000 268 835
Darlington	Children's Initial Advice Team	01325 406 252
	Out of Hours Emergency Duty Team	01642 524 552
	Local Authority Designated Officer	01325 406 451
Gateshead	Children's Services (8.30am – 5.00pm Monday to Friday)	0191 433 2653
	Emergency Duty Team (Out of Hours)	0191 477 0844
Hartlepool	Hartlepool and Stockton-on-Tees Children's Hub	01429 284 284
	Out of Hours	01642 524 552
Middlesbrough	Middlesbrough Multi-Agency Children's Hub	01642 726 004
	Out of Hours Contact	01642 524 552
North Tyneside	Front Door	03452 000 109
	Out of Hours	0191 200 6800
Northumberland	24/7 OneCall telephone	01670 536 400
	Local Authority Designated Officer	01670 623 979
Redcar and Cleveland	Redcar and Cleveland Multi-Agency Children's Hub	01642 130 700
	Emergency Duty Team (Out of Hours)	01642 524 552
	Local Authority Designated Officer	01642 130 700
Stockton	The Children's Hub	01642 130 080
	Emergency Duty Team	01642 524 552
South Tyneside	Children and Families Social Care (Monday to Thursday 8.30am – 5.00pm, Friday 8.30am – 4.30pm)	0191 424 5010
	Out of Hours Service	0191 456 2093
Sunderland	Together for Children (8.30am – 5.00pm Monday to Thursday, 8.30am – 4.30pm Friday)	0191 520 5560
	Out of Hours Team	0191 520 5552
	Local Authority Designated Officer (office hours only)	0191 561 3901