EtonHouse®
International School

Broadrick Campus

Child Safeguarding Guidelines

Reviewed August 2023 *Adapted from Thomson Campus 2022*	Reviewed by; Peter Dart (Vice Principal) Pallavi Chakrabarti (Inclusive Education Coordinator and Safeguarding Lead)	Approved by; Edward Jones (School Principal and Safeguarding Lead)

Policy Statement

The purpose of our EtonHouse Broadrick Child Safeguarding Guidelines is to safeguard and protect children and young people from harm. This policy aims to provide staff and volunteers, as well as children and young people and their families, with the overarching principles that guide our approach to child protection.

We firmly believe that children and young people should never experience abuse of any kind and have a right to feel safe and protected at all times and in all situations. As adults who work alongside children, we are committed to and have a responsibility to promote the welfare of all children and young people, to keep them safe and to engage in practices that protect them.

Rationale

EtonHouse Broadrick recognises that effective child protection practice requires developed procedures, good inter-agency cooperation and a workforce that is competent and confident in recognising and responding to child safeguarding and protection situations.

This EtonHouse Broadrick Child Safeguarding Policy is aligned with the [United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child](#), [Singapore's Children and Young Person's Act 1993](#) (2020 revised edition), and the guidance standards of the [International Taskforce on Child Protection (ITFCP)](#) for international school communities globally.

We expect all individuals and organisations affiliated with our school community to act with integrity and in the best interests of safeguarding children. This policy is binding for all who have contact with our EtonHouse Broadrick school community, including staff, contracted service providers, volunteers, associated agencies, parents and visitors.

Definitions & Terminology

Child or Young Person: The Singapore Government defines a child as persons under the age of 14 years, and a young person as anyone aged over 14 years but under 16 years. The United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child defines a child as "persons under the age of 18 years". At EtonHouse, we use the term 'child' to refer to any student aged under 16 years and the term 'young person' to define any student over the age of 16 years but below the age of 18 years. We acknowledge our duty of care to all EtonHouse students regardless of age, inclusive of students aged 18 years or above.

Safeguarding: The responsibilities and preventative measures that EtonHouse undertakes to protect our students from harm, prevent damage to children's health or development, ensuring that children grow up safely and taking action to enable all children to have the best start in life (*The National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children: NSPCC, 2021).*

Child Protection: Child Protection is a part of the safeguarding process. It specifically refers to the reactive measures we take to protect specific children who are being abused or who are at risk of abuse.

Significant risk of harm: Significant risk of harm is the threshold which justifies compulsory intervention in the best interests of the child.

Code of Conduct: The principles, values, standards, or rules of behaviour that guide the decisions, procedures and systems of EtonHouse in a way that (a) contributes to the welfare of our key stakeholders and (b) respects the rights of all constituents affected by its operations.

Risk management: The identification, assessment and prioritisation of risks that will be carried out for all programmes and activities that EtonHouse judges to involve risk of harm to children.

Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) & Designated Deputy Safeguarding Lead (DDSL): Two appointed staff members trained in child protection and responsible for receiving, investigating, and responding to safeguarding concerns within EtonHouse Broadrick.

Categories of Abuse

Abuse: A violation of an individual's human and civil rights by any other person or persons.

Child Abuse: Any act of commission or commission by a parent or guardian (or any other person) which would endanger or impair the child's physical or emotional well-being or that are judged by a mixture of community values and professionals to be inappropriate' (Singapore Ministry of Social and Family Development 2002) Categories of Abuse include Physical Abuse, Sexual Abuse, Emotional / Psychological Abuse, Neglect.

Physical Abuse: Physical injury to a child, or reasonable suspicion that the injury was inflicted or knowingly not prevented. It involves any non-accidental injury where adults physically hurt, injure or kill a child. This can involve hitting, shaking, squeezing, burning and biting. It also includes giving a child poisonous substances, inappropriate drugs or alcohol.

Sexual Abuse: The exploitation and involvement of a child or young person in sexual activity that he/she does not fully comprehend, is unable to give informed consent to, or violates the law of Singapore. It specifically relates to the power differential and the activity is intended to gratify or satisfy the needs of the older child/adult.

Emotional / Psychological Abuse: A parent or caregiver's pattern of failure to provide a child with non-physical nurture, emotional support or availability. It can also include harassment or indifference on the basis of race, culture, gender or disability.

Neglect: The persistent or severe neglect of a child which results in serious impairment of the child's health or development. Neglect can occur where parents/guardians fail to provide conditions that are essential for a child's physical, emotional development.

Peer on peer abuse: It is recognised that children and young people can be exploited, bullied and/or harmed by their peers who are the same or similar age.

Safeguarding Roles & Responsibilities

Child abuse occurs in all communities regardless of the gender of the child or perpetrator, wealth, religion, culture or ethnicity. Schools as institutions working with children and young people, become more at risk to those who wish to exploit or abuse children. All members of the school community have a duty to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and create a culture of awareness and vigilance. There are key roles with specific safeguarding responsibilities throughout the organisation. Further information can be requested from the school Safeguarding Lead.

Reporting and Responding to Concerns

EtonHouse Broadrick recognises the importance of equipping all staff, parents, external service providers and volunteers with the knowledge to respond and report safeguarding concerns to ensure that appropriate action is taken to keep a child or young person safe. The primary goal of any safeguarding response is to prevent and respond to children experiencing or at risk of, abuse, neglect, violence, and/or exploitation.

Responding to Safeguarding Concerns details the procedures for reporting, investigating and responding to safeguarding concerns regarding an EtonHouse Broadrick student.

EtonHouse recognises that working in partnership with the local community support agencies and Child Protection Service is essential in promoting and safeguarding young children's welfare.

Related Procedures and Practices

Recording Keeping

All safeguarding files are kept secured in 2-factor identification cloud servers or secured filing cabinets located in the general office. The Safeguarding Leads are responsible for ensuring all documents are complete and factual. Staff are trained and aware that all records should distinguish between factual information and subjective opinions.

Code of Conduct of Adults working at EtonHouse Broadrick

This **Staff Handbook** and outlines the conduct EtonHouse Broadrick expects from all our staff.

The Code of Conduct aims to help us protect children and young people from abuse and reduce the possibility of unfounded allegations being made.

EtonHouse Broadrick is responsible for making sure everyone taking part in our services has seen, understood and agreed to follow the Code of Conduct, and that they understand the consequences of inappropriate behaviour.

Keeping Safe: Child Protection Curriculum

A key area of safeguarding is through supporting learners to develop knowledge and understanding of how they can keep themselves safe. To do this EtonHouse Broadrick has chosen to adopt the *Keeping Safe: Child Protection Curriculum* which has been developed by the Government for South Australia's Department of Education.
 The curriculum is based on two main themes:

- *We all have the right to be safe*
- *We can help ourselves to be safe by talking to people we trust.*

The themes are presented through four Focus Areas:

- *The right to be safe*
- *Relationships*
- *Recognising and reporting abuse*
- *Protective strategies*

(Government of South Australia, Department for Education, 2020)

Staff Safeguarding Training

Safeguarding training is a key aspect of our staff induction, ongoing professional development and training. The school has regular scheduled training for our safeguarding leads, school leadership, teaching and non-teaching staff, parent volunteers and external service providers. This includes online Child Protection training for our external providers, advanced child protection training for our DSLs and Senior Leadership as well as ongoing targeted in-person and/or online training for all staff.

Link to Training Resources (Staff Only)

Related

These policies from our connected Thomosn campus reflect policies that are under development for Broadrick's campus

1. Child Disclosure/Concern Record (Staff Only)
2. Staff Disclosure/Concern Record (Staff Only)
3. EtonHouse Broadrick- Code of Conduct for Adults Working with Children (For Public)
4. Key safeguarding Roles & Responsibilities*(From Thomson Campus)*