

MOUNTVIEW

SAFEGUARDING POLICY

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1. WHAT IS SAFEGUARDING?

Safeguarding denotes appropriate measures:

- To protect individuals from maltreatment, abuse or neglect; and
- To prevent harm to their health, development and wellbeing.

While there is no legislation specifically directed at safeguarding adults in Higher Education Institutions (HEIs), Mountview has based its approach to safeguarding on the core principles recognised in child protection and associated legislation and policy.

Mountview's safeguarding procedures and practice outlined in this and associated policies are in place to allow preventative action as well as reaction.

2. STATEMENT OF INTENT

Mountview believes that the health, welfare and safety of all of our community, regardless of age or vulnerability, are of paramount importance.

Mountview adheres to the belief that all people without exception have a human right to be protected from maltreatment or harm of any kind regardless of age, gender, ethnicity, nationality, disability, sexuality, gender identity, lifestyle or religious beliefs.

3. WHO DOES THIS POLICY APPLY TO?

This policy applies to all staff (including freelance and subcontracted staff) of Mountview, to students, participants, exam candidates and the Board of trustees.

Failure to follow Mountview's safeguarding guidance and procedures would constitute a matter of concern and may lead to disciplinary action.

Copies of this policy, and all associated policies listed herein, can be provided by any of the Mountview Safeguarding Contacts listed in Appendix C of this policy.

4. APPROACH

Effective safeguarding begins with our community being well informed, being aware of safeguarding issues, and following the procedures outlined in this and associated policies.

All those engaging with Mountview are required to report any concerns of potential risk to self/others or of abuse immediately. All concerns will be taken seriously by Mountview and responded to appropriately & sensitively.

In some cases this may require Mountview to make a referral to local safeguarding services, and, in emergencies, the police.

Mountview's Designated Safeguarding Leads are:

- Safeguarding & Prevent Lead Officer - for matters relating to students on all Higher Education courses, or adults taking part in any other Mountview activity.
- Child Protection Officer - for matters relating to 'Generation Next', Mountview's programme for Young People, other participation/outreach activity, and Young People taking part in any other Mountview activity.

Contact details for these Lead individuals are listed in APPENDIX C of this policy.

Mountview carries out effective safeguarding by ensuring the following core policies and procedures are implemented and adhered to:

1. CHILD PROTECTION

Mountview's Child Protection Policy is in place for all young people's programme work and work carried out in local school or community settings with young people or vulnerable adults.

2. STUDENT CONDUCT, including but not limited to:

- 2.1 Creating Culturally Safer Spaces in Dramatic Training
- 2.2 Student Code of Conduct
- 2.3 Bullying & Harassment Policy
- 2.4 Student Sexual Misconduct Policy
- 2.5 Staff-to-student Sexual Misconduct Policy
- 2.6 Student Social Media Code of Conduct

This suite of policies sets a procedural framework and approach to ensure a creative and conducive environment is maintained; open and safe communication lines are achieved allowing for preventative support and safeguarding action or reaction where appropriate.

3. STUDENT SUPPORT, including but not limited to:

- 3.1 Student Induction Policy
- 3.2 Fitness to Study Policy
- 3.3 Personal Tutor Policy

These policies outline Mountview's commitment to ensuring students receive the support required throughout their time at Mountview.

4. LEARNING SUPPORT

- 4.1 Reasonable Adjustments Statement & process

This statement and process ensures students with additional educational needs are able to continue their studies and are not artistically or academically penalised due to a specific disability or learning difficulty.

5. PREVENT

5.1 Prevent Policy

5.2 Code of Practice for Freedom of Speech and External Speakers

These two policies outline Mountview's approach and legal responsibility to implementing and adhering to the 'Prevent Duty'.

6. IT NETWORKS AND USAGE

6.1 IT Acceptable Usage Policy

6.2 IT Security Policy

This suite of policies outlines Mountview's IT infrastructure and approach to digital communications, security and safe practice.

Effective safeguarding is also supported by the following associated policies:

1. Confidentiality & Data Protection
2. Health & Safety
3. Admissions & Registry, eg
 - 3.1 General regulations
 - 3.3 Student Complaints Procedure (non-academic)
 - 3.4 Recruitment, Selection & Admissions
4. Human Resources / Staff Related, eg
 - 4.1 Staff Code of Conduct
 - 4.2 Staff Sexual Harassment Policy
 - 4.3 Whistleblowing Policy
 - 4.4 Bullying & Harassment Policy
 - 4.5 Staff Disciplinary Policy

5. LEGAL GUIDANCE

As noted above, there is no government legislation specifically directed at safeguarding adults in Higher Education Institutions (HEI).

This policy is based on the core principles recognised in child protection and safeguarding legislation and policy. These include:

- The Children's Act 1989 and 2004
- The Education Act 2011
- Safeguarding Vulnerable Groups Act 2006 as amended by the Protection of Freedoms Act 2012
- The Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974
- Working Together to Safeguard Children 2018

- Keeping Children Safe in Education 2015 (and subsequent updates)
- The Counter Terrorism and Security Act 2015
- The Care Act 2014

The Government has also identified key principles for safeguarding which Mountview believes should underpin all of our work with students and young people.

- EMPOWERMENT: presumption of person-led decisions and informed consent.
- PROTECTION: support and representation for those in greatest need.
- PREVENTION: it is better to take action before harm occurs.
- PROPORTIONALITY: proportionate and least intrusive response appropriate to the risk presented.
- PARTNERSHIP: local solutions through services working with their communities.
- COMMUNITIES: communities have a part to play in preventing, detecting and reporting neglect and abuse.
- ACCOUNTABILITY: accountability and transparency in delivering safeguarding.

6. SAFEGUARDING PROCEDURE GUIDELINES

6.1 Recognising and reporting a safeguarding concern – basic rules

There are two basic rules that a staff member should always follow if they have a safeguarding concern:

1. Do not ignore it
2. Do not work in isolation

Any concerning behaviour involving the wellbeing and welfare of a student or young person must be reported and recorded as detailed below.

6.2 Identifying a concern – Thresholds of need & categories of abuse

Recognising a concern and identifying indicators in a student or young person's behaviour, appearance or demeanour are essential for the implementation of effective safeguarding.

Advice and guidance can be found in:

SECTION 8 - Specific Safeguarding Concerns
 APENDIX A - Assessing level of risk & thresholds of need

6.3 Actions by the staff member

For a full procedural flow chart see **Section 7**.

Any concerns regarding a student's wellbeing should be discussed immediately with the student's Personal Tutor or the Student Welfare Manager. Freelance staff should speak to their supervising/line manager if in any doubt about who to contact.

Any concerns regarding the wellbeing of a young person on our participation or outreach programmes, or who is an Exams candidate, should be discussed immediately with the Child Protection Officer, who will then follow the procedures laid out in the Child Protection Policy.

Where this concern may be considered 'high risk' and a staff member is concerned for a student or young person's immediate or on-going welfare, a designated Safeguarding Officer should be contacted immediately.

See APPENDIX C for contact details of Safeguarding Officers.

For guidance on assessing the level of risk/threshold of need, see APPENDIX A.

If a staff member is unsure of who to contact, or the Student Welfare Manager or Safeguarding Officers are unavailable, Student Services should be informed. If Student Services is not staffed at the time, Duty Management should be informed instead.

6.4 Dealing with a Disclosure

If a student or young person makes a disclosure of abuse, neglect, or presents a potential risk of significant harm to themselves directly to a staff member, the staff member should:

- Listen carefully to what is said and allow the person to tell you at their own pace.
- Record/write down basic factual information; seek any necessary clarification of facts, but try to avoid asking leading questions. **Avoid offering any opinion or advice.**
- Let the person know that they have done the right thing in disclosing information and, whilst you will not be able to keep the matter confidential, assure them that information will only be shared with people who need to know and who can provide help and support.

Staff members should be aware that it is their duty to tell the appropriate person when significant harm or risk is disclosed or they have a safeguarding concern. It is not their duty to make a judgement about what action Mountview should take (this is the responsibility of the Designated Safeguarding Lead Officers).

6.5 Actions by the Personal Tutor or Student Welfare Manager

Where the disclosure or concern presented is considered low risk, the Personal Tutor or Student Welfare Manager should action the internal support mechanisms identified in the procedural flow chart in Section 7.

Where the disclosure or concern presented is considered medium or high risk the Personal Tutor or Student Welfare Manager should:

- Record all information including who is concerned (facts, dates and times etc.).
- Talk to a Mountview Safeguarding Officer about the safeguarding concern or disclosure.
- Work with the relevant Safeguarding Officer to assess the level of risk and agree what action should be taken (see next section).
- Meet with the student as soon as possible to explain what action is being taken.

For guidance on assessing the level of risk/threshold of need, see APPENDIX A.

Where a safeguarding concern is raised by staff members at Mountview and not through a student disclosure, the student must be informed at the soonest opportunity and throughout the process, unless this may raise the risk of significant harm.

If a colleague shares a concern involving a staff member within Mountview, this must be reported to the Safeguarding Lead Officer without delay and before the end of the working day.

6.6 Actions by the Safeguarding Officer

Where safeguarding concerns are raised, regardless of the level of risk, a 'Record of Safeguarding Concern' form should be created. See APPENDIX B

If the level of risk is high and the situation is urgent, take immediate action to protect the student. This may involve:

- Calling an ambulance so the student is taken by Health Care professionals to A&E
- Calling the police
- Calling the relevant Southwark Social Services team (see Appendix D below)
- Calling the relevant Prevent co-ordinator

Where significant harm is suspected and there are immediate concerns of danger, the concern will need to be referred immediately to relevant local services or external agencies (no later than 24 hours).

Where there is uncertainty over whether a referral should be made, Social Services (via the MASH team) should be contacted for advice. If for any reason Social Services cannot be contacted the concern can be reported to the local police or Community Support Officers.

Where a safeguarding concern has been raised or procedure initiated (regardless of level of risk) the designated Safeguarding Lead should notify and fully brief the Mountview Executive team.

6.7 Where a referral to Social Services/Prevent Co-ordinator is not considered necessary

Regardless of level of risk involved a 'Record of Safeguarding Concern' form must always be created by the Personal Tutor or Student Welfare Manager, in consultation with the Safeguarding Officer.

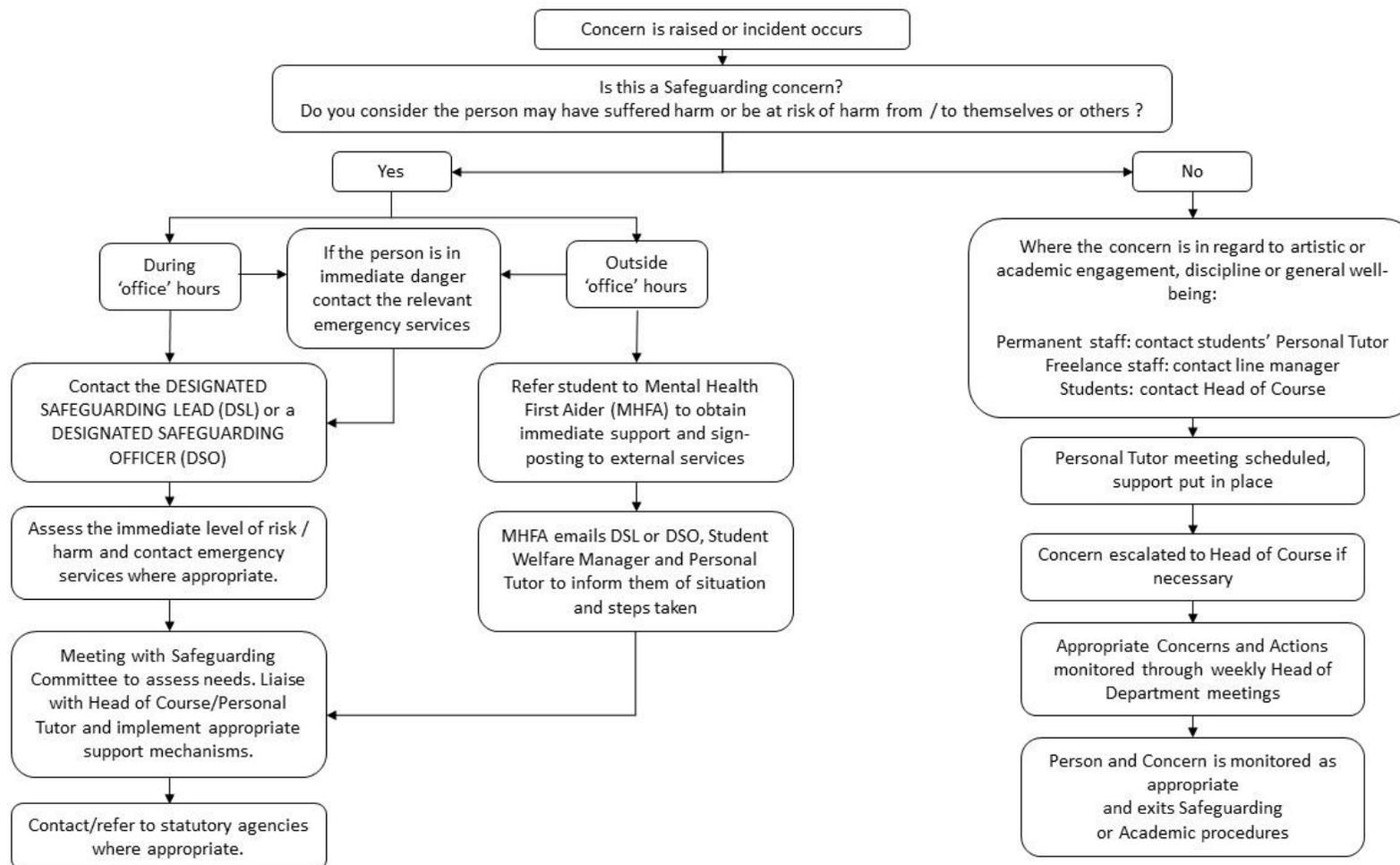
Where appropriate, other referral options should be considered to offer the individual further support; these may include:

- Referral to the Mountview counselling service
- Recommendation of other professional services including, dyslexia/learning support, NHS clinics (anorexia/dietary etc.)

Where the level of risk is not considered high:

- Arrange a meeting with the student concerned to address the issues and implement any relevant actions and procedures
- Raise the issue at next HOD meeting through Students Causing Concern agenda point, (only if it is likely to have an impact on attendance, training or need support)
- The student involved and issue should be regularly monitored until the issue is resolved
- The student involved should meeting regularly with the Student Welfare Manager.

7. SAFEGUARDING PROCEDURAL FLOW CHART



Note the above procedure is specific to Higher Education students. For procedures for young people engaged on participation & outreach activities, refer to the Child Protection Policy.

8. SPECIFIC SAFEGUARDING CONCERNS

Physical Harm

Where someone may have suffered or is at risk of suffering physical harm. This may be historical, through familial or partnership relations, social or work environments.

Emotional and Psychological Harm

Where someone is suffering from an emotional or psychological maltreatment which may cause severe and persistent adverse effects on the individual's emotional development and well-being.

This may involve controlling behaviour, threats of harm, deprivation of contact, humiliation, blaming, intimidation, coercion, harassment, verbal abuse, isolation or withdrawal from services or supportive networks. It may involve seeing or hearing the ill-treatment of another.

Neglect

Neglect is the persistent failure to meet a person's basic physical and/or psychological needs, likely to result in the serious impairment of health or development. This may involve failing to protect from physical and emotional harm or danger, failure to ensure adequate support and supervision, or the failure to ensure access to appropriate medical care or treatment.

Self-Neglect

Self-neglect is the failure of a person to take care of themselves that causes, or is reasonably likely to cause serious physical, psychological or emotional harm (or damage to or loss of assets).

An act of self-neglect may be intentional (active) or non-intentional (passive).

This may involve malnutrition, refusal to seek medical advice and self-harming.

Sexual Abuse

Sexual abuse involves forcing or enticing a person to take part in sexual activities, including prostitution, whether or not they are aware of what is happening. The activities may involve physical contact, including penetrative or non-penetrative acts.

Financial abuse

Financial abuse involves theft, fraud, exploitation, or the misuse or misappropriation of property or possessions.

Radicalisation

Radicalisation refers to the process by which a person comes to support illegal activity and forms of extremism which may lead to an act of terrorism. The main areas of concern at present include religious extremism, nationalist extremism and animal rights extremism among others.

A person may become susceptible to radicalisation through a range of social, personal and environmental factors. It is known that extremists often exploit vulnerabilities in individuals in order to drive a wedge between them and their families and communities. While this list is not exhaustive, critical risk factors can include:

- Being in contact with extremist recruiters
- Accessing violent extremist websites, especially those with a social networking element
- Possessing or accessing violent extremist literature
- Using extremist narratives and a global ideology to explain personal disadvantage
- Justifying the use of violence to solve societal issues
- Joining or seeking to join extremist organisations
- Significant changes to appearance and / or behaviour
- Experiencing a high level of social isolation resulting in issues of identity crisis and / or personal crisis.

9. RIGHTS & RESPONSIBILITIES

9.1 Responsibilities of Mountview

- Establish and maintain an environment where all those engaging with us feel safe, can talk freely about their feelings and experiences in structured ways, and are listened to.
- Take effective, timely and robust action to protect students and others and report concerns according to the procedures outlined in this policy.
- Ensure that enhanced DBS checks are undertaken on eligible staff in accordance with DBS guidelines.
- Ensure there is a commitment to 'safer recruitment' in selection and vetting of staff; and ensure that all staff are adequately aware of and supported in matters regarding safeguarding procedures.
- Ensure that all staff and students are aware of this safeguarding policy and will implement procedures and protocols in accordance with this policy.
- Notify relevant external agencies where an appropriate safeguarding concern is identified or suspected.
- Ensure that all referrals to external agencies have full information in relation to identified risk.

9.2 Responsibilities of Mountview staff

- Staff must make sure they are familiar with the safeguarding policy and procedures and are able to follow procedures if appropriate.
- Staff are responsible for their own professional conduct, and the welfare of students and exam candidates (physical and emotional) through their working practice.
- Staff should always take action according to this policy if they have safeguarding concerns.
- Staff members must declare any relevant existing convictions. Failure to do so will be regarded as gross misconduct and may result in dismissal.
- Staff who hold a position which includes “substantial, unsupervised access on a sustained or regular basis” to children and vulnerable adults, must declare all previous convictions whether spent or unspent and all pending cases against them, and consent to an enhanced DBS check being carried out.

9.3 Rights of those who report safeguarding concerns

- All those reporting maltreatment, making an allegation or expressing concern, whether they be staff or students will be listened to and taken seriously and their concerns will be acted on in accordance with this policy.
- Students and staff will be given immediate protection from the risk of reprisals or intimidation.
- This includes a respect for confidentiality for when reporting concerns.

9.4 Rights of students

- Students have the right to see this policy.
- All students have the right to be listened to and to have alleged incidents and concerns taken seriously and acted on in an appropriate way.
- Students have the right to receive sensitive, fair and respectful treatment during the processes undertaken in line with this policy.
- Students have the right to have their wishes and feelings taken into account when safeguarding decisions about actions are being made.
- Students (and parent/guardians, in relation to a student under 18 or where a student has given permission for a parent/guardian to be involved) have the right to be consulted and informed about decisions made, including if the actions taken by Mountview are against their wishes, and to receive information about the actions taken and their outcomes.

10. WORKING PRACTICE & PROTOCOLS

10.1 Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) checks

- All staff working with Mountview who have regular unsupervised contact with children and vulnerable adults will have enhanced Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) checks.

10.2 Induction & training

- All Mountview staff will be made aware of and familiarise themselves with the safeguarding and associated policies and procedures during induction into their role.
- All staff will be made aware of who the Safeguarding Leads are and how to implement the safeguarding policy.
- All Mountview students will be made aware of the safeguarding and associated policies and procedures during their induction week and in their Programme handbooks.
- Mountview will maintain a training register/log in relation to 'Safeguarding' and 'Health & Safety' related training for full-time staff.
- Designated Safeguarding Officers and Designated Safeguarding leads will refresh their training at regular intervals in line with Government legislation and best practice.
- A number of staff from across the organisation will receive Mental Health First Aid training, enabling them to support colleagues and students who are experiencing mental health or wellbeing issues.

10.3 Management

- Mountview will appoint a Safeguarding Lead and Safeguarding Officers who will receive relevant training in how to implement the safeguarding policy and liaise with other organisations.
- The Designated Safeguarding Lead will communicate directly with Heads of Department on safeguarding matters where appropriate.
- Anonymised reports on safeguarding issues will be provided to the Executive Management Team / Board of Governors as required.
- Heads of Department will ensure that they are familiar with this safeguarding policy and have informed the staff they manage about it.
- Safeguarding Officers will work with staff where appropriate to ensure the effective implementation of this policy.

10.4 Record keeping

- Mountview will keep a written record of any safeguarding concerns or incidents. These records will be kept securely by the Safeguarding Leads.
- It is important that this information is recorded as factually as possible. Disclosures of information should include what was said or observed, all persons involved, the

date and time of what has occurred, the date of disclosure and, if there are observable, any injuries.

- Any actions agreed and/or taken must also be recorded.
- Records should be completed as soon as is reasonably practical and ideally within twenty-four hours of a disclosure or incident occurring.
- Documentation or statements must be given to a Safeguarding Officer.
- A written record must always be kept, even where there is no referral to statutory authorities.
- Written documentation will be kept for as long as deemed necessary, in line with the Data Protection Act 2018 and best practice.

11.CONFIDENTIALITY

11.1 Student & exam candidate confidentiality

Mountview is an organisation that offers a safe and secure environment to its students and exam candidates. This means that Mountview will not disclose personal information about a student or exam candidate to an external third party without the individual's consent, unless there is a risk of significant harm or for statutory or legal reasons.

Staff members should however be clear with anyone making a safeguarding disclosure that information may be shared with other relevant Mountview staff for the purposes of support and guidance, and safeguarding.

11.2 Confidentiality and sharing information between agencies

In certain circumstances Mountview may have a legal duty to break confidentiality without the consent of an individual, if we have evidence of a real risk of significant harm (a "genuine concern for an individual's welfare").

We will always discuss this with the individual and inform them of our actions, unless the paragraph below applies.

It is legally acceptable to break confidentiality without informing an individual if informing them would lead to high likelihood of significant harm. For example, if by informing the individual they are highly likely to immediately attempt suicide, hurt someone else, or disappear.

11.3 Disclosure of disability

If a student makes a disclosure of a disability to a staff member and the student has not yet declared this disability to the relevant student services officer at Mountview, the staff member should ensure that their Head of Department and student support services are notified.

The disability disclosed may be a physical or sensory impairment, mental health difficulty, a specific learning difficulty such as dyslexia, or an unseen medical condition and may not relate to a safeguarding concern at all.

However, the information must still be shared with the relevant staff so Mountview can respond appropriately and ensure that any reasonable adjustments are implemented.

11.4 Safeguarding concerns about Mountview staff

If there are safeguarding concerns about a person working for Mountview, a Safeguarding Lead Officer or a member of the People & Culture team should be informed immediately. Mountview understands that this may be sensitive, but the organisation has a duty to safeguard all students and staff.

VERSION CONTROL DETAIL

Date:	Version:	Action:	By:
Aug 2019	11	Amendments to local authority resources	J Smeeth
Dec 2023	12	Minor amendments and amendments to Mountview contacts	F Lambert
Feb 2024	13	Minor amendments to extend scope to Mountview Exams candidates	F Lambert
June 2025	14	Minor amendments	F Lambert

APPENDIX A: ASSESSING LEVEL OF RISK & THRESHOLDS OF NEED

Safeguarding procedures are based on an assessment about the student's needs.

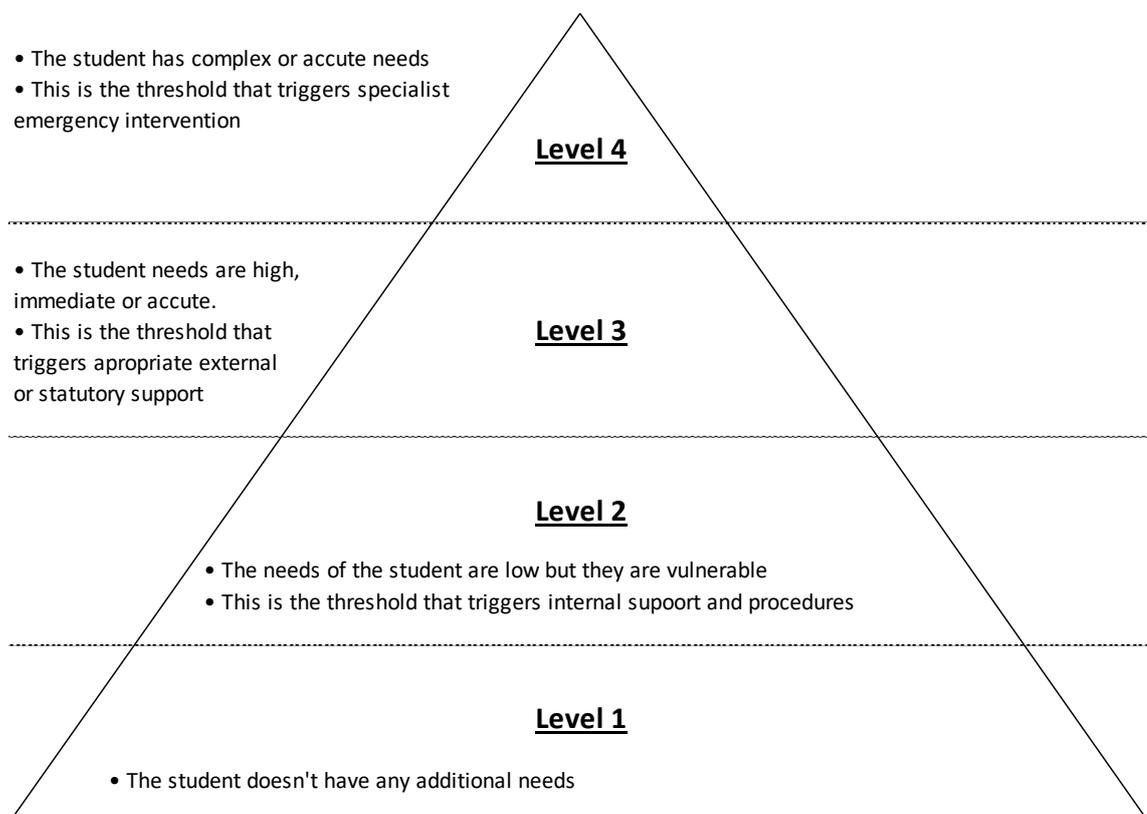
Statutory guidance groups needs into four levels, with different duties at each level.

Level 1: Universal needs – the student doesn't have any additional needs at the moment and universal services are adequate in meeting the needs they do have.

Level 2: Low needs but someone is vulnerable – the needs of the student are not clear, not known or not being met. This is of concern. This is the threshold that triggers internal procedures (Well-being and Fitness to Study, Personal Tutor Scheme or a safeguarding cause for concern).

Level 3: High needs – the needs of the student require longer interventions to be met, are at a high level and/or require statutory or specialist interventions. This is the threshold that triggers specialist internal and external intervention.

Level 4: Complex or acute needs – the needs of the student are immediate, complex or acute. There are high risks and intensive statutory support is required. This is the threshold that triggers specialist emergency service intervention.



People's situations can go up or down these levels. The aim is that, through appropriate action and support, the level of need goes down.

In regard to Children or Vulnerable adults:

- It is ultimately the responsibility of Social Services to judge the level of need.
- Child protection teams are only legally responsible for providing services for people at level 4, although they will usually be involved with people at level 3.
- Other health, education, voluntary or support services will pick up working with children and vulnerable adults judged to be at level 2.
- Many referrals made to Social Services will not meet level 4 after assessment and a referral will be closed or passed back to other agencies. However, Social Services will always help a referring agency to make a judgment about need and staff should never hesitate to refer if necessary.

This information is provided as a background explanation. Mountview staff should not be making an assessment of level of need. This is ultimately a job for Social Services, external agencies and professionals.

Within Mountview, the Designated Safeguarding Lead is ultimately responsible for the triggering of safeguarding referrals to external agencies.

APPENDIX B: RECORD OF SAFEGUARDING CONCERN FORM

Student/Staff Member name:
Your name:
Today's Date:
Date concern was raised or event occurred:
Details:
Action Taken:
What is the estimated risk to the student? (1=low, 5=high) 1 2 3 4 5
Notes on reviewing case:
I confirm that a note has been put on the student's file:

Signed: _____ Review date: _____ Reviewed: _____

Co-signed: _____

APPENDIX C: MOUNTVIEW SAFEGUARDING CONTACTS

Designated Safeguarding Lead & Prevent Lead Officer

Froniga Lambert: fronigalambert@mountview.org.uk

Designated Safeguarding Officers

Vanessa Bunn: vanessabunn@mountview.org.uk 020 8829 1079

Amy Barber: amybarber@mountview.org.uk 020 8826 9215

Laurie Denman-Puller (Mountview Exams): lauriedenman-puller@mountview.org.uk 020 4576 2395

Child Protection Officer

Teni Matian: tenimatian@mountview.org.uk 020 8826 9219

Governor Safeguarding Lead

Tim Sheader: can be contacted via safeguarding@mountview.org.uk

APPENDIX D: SOUTHWARK SOCIAL SERVICES CONTACTS

Southwark Council advise that individuals who wish to report or discuss concerns regarding safeguarding and abuse should contact the Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) which is staffed with professionals from a range of agencies including:

- Children's Social Care
- Adults Social Care
- Police
- Health and Probation

The MASH team can be contacted as follows:

020 7525 1921

020 7252 5000 (out of hours)

email: mash@southwark.gov.uk

Sumner House
Sumner Road
London
SE15 5QS

Further details on the MASH Hub services can be found at:

<https://www.southwark.gov.uk/childcare-and-parenting/children-s-social-care/child-protection/multi-agency-safeguarding-hub-mash>

Safeguarding Adults Team on 0207 525 1754 or via email:

SafeguardingAdultsCoordinator@southwark.gov.uk

PREVENT CO-ORDINATION CONTACTS

Local Authority Prevent Contact

prevent@southwark.gov.uk

Office for Students Prevent Contact

prevent@officeforstudents.org.uk

APPENDIX E: DEFINITIONS USED IN THIS POLICY

Definition of a child

A child is legally defined as any person under the age of 18 yrs.

Definition of a vulnerable adult

A vulnerable adult is someone aged 18 years or over who 'is or may be in need of community care services by reasons of mental health or other disability, age or illness' and 'is or may be unable to take care of him or herself, or unable to protect him or herself against significant harm or exploitation'.

Considerations in regard to where an adult may be classed as 'vulnerable'

Where Mountview programmes delivers training for young people under the age of 18 or vulnerable adults, Mountview's Child Protection and Code of Practice will be followed.

There are no hard and fast definitions of what makes an adult vulnerable. Making a judgement about vulnerability is a process based on gathering evidence and on discussion with the person concerned, others, and with the Safeguarding Lead.

Vulnerability may be caused by something inherent to the person – for example, having a learning disability or mental health issue or frailty due to old age – and this can be lifelong, acquired or temporary.

However, it is very important to understand that a personal characteristic in itself does not make (or categorise) someone vulnerable – i.e. not everyone with a learning disability or mental health issue will be vulnerable.

It is very important in terms of disabled and older people's equality and rights not to assume someone is vulnerable just because of who they are.

What actually makes someone vulnerable is the interaction of their personal characteristic with an inability to protect themselves from harm at this moment in time.

Vulnerability may also exist not because of anything inherent to the person but due to the circumstances they are living in, for example they are homeless, living in an abusive relationship or having a mental health crisis of some kind. Again, what makes someone vulnerable in these circumstances is an inability to protect themselves against significant harm.

Vulnerable adults can be at risk of being open to recruitment to extremist groups by radicalisers who encourage others to develop or adopt beliefs and views supportive of terrorism, and forms of extremism leading to terrorism.

Definitions of student, staff member and exam candidate in relation to safeguarding

Student

The term student applies to anyone who attends or takes part in a Mountview activity as a participant.

This includes:

- young people who register onto and attend Mountview programmes
- people who register onto Higher Education programmes
- people who take part in part-time and short courses
- people who take part in activities such as Continued Professional Development, Peckham Sessions or Summer Intensives

Staff member

Staff member means anyone with an employment contract from Mountview, including those working as Visiting Professionals or working on a freelance basis. It includes members of the Governing Body and third part contractors, while working under contract with Mountview.

All staff will always be encouraged to share safeguarding concerns that they may have, have witnessed or been made aware of.

Exam candidate

An exam candidate is someone taking a Mountview Exam, either at Mountview's Peckham home or at an exam centre elsewhere in the country, of whatever age.

Definition of abuse

Abuse can consist of a single or repeated act of harm or exploitation. It may be perpetrated as a result of deliberate intent, negligence or ignorance.

Categories of Abuse:

Physical
Verbal
Psychological
Emotional
Financial
Sexual

Abuse may be caused as a result of neglect or an omission to act.

For vulnerable adults, abuse can also occur when the person is persuaded to enter into a financial arrangement, support for terrorism or a sexual relationship to which they have not, or could not, offer informed consent to or understand.

Definition of radicalisation and extremism

Radicalisation is defined as the process by which people come to support terrorism and extremism and, in some cases, to then participate in terrorist or extremist groups or acts. Extremism is vocal or active opposition to fundamental British values, including democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty and mutual respect and tolerance of different faiths and beliefs.