This form **must** be completed for all papers being submitted to the Board of Governors.

Paper K

Moulton COLLEGE

Report Title:	Annual Safeguarding Report 22/23		
Report to: (select a Committee and the date to which the paper will be submitted)	TLA	**Date of meeting:**	10 October 2023
Author:	Nikki Southgate, Director of SEND and Student Experience	**Cleared by SLT:**	Choose an item.

Action required of the Board/Committee	**Approval** ☒		**Information only** ☐
Impact on the quality of education or student experience (what impact (direct or indirect) is there on our learners)	Developing a strong culture of safeguarding that is trusted, resilient and open to change supports this primary responsibility and duty of care towards students.		
Cost and resource implications: This summary **must** set out all cost and resource implications (including staffing), particularly if approval is required.	No additional cost or resource implications		
Capital Investment required:	None		
Equality impact: (please indicate which groups will be impacted by this proposal)	Offering support to every student and ensuring a safe environment that meets their needs and enables them to access learning		
Sustainability Impact (Impact on the sustainability of our estate or sustainability in the curriculum)	N/A		
Strategic objective: (indicate which one(s) will be impacted by the report and include a reference to any risks of not achieving the strategic objective(s)?	Achieving excellence and inspiring success by delivering a high-quality service that provides exceptional and personalised student support within a safe and secure environment with a positive approach to well-being.		
Risk assessment: (please indicate how the report/proposal links to and affects the Risk Register)	Failure to provide a safe environment for students, staff and visitors.		
Executive summary (not more than 100 words) and MUST be completed			

An annual review of safeguarding activity for academic year 2022/23 with a three-year trend comparison and an outline of development plans for 23/24.

There has been a 14% increase in concerns raised compared to the previous year, rising from 1,897 to 2,183. Home issues related concerns are the biggest reason for concern with a 36% increase in these types of concerns compared to the previous period.

The Safeguarding Team are increasingly aware of individual safeguarding needs and risks early in the student journey, this will allow for increasingly proactive support and risk management.

We are fully compliant with the statutory requirements set out in the 2023 Keeping Children Safe in Education guidance.

1 PURPOSE

To report on safeguarding activity for the 2022/23 academic year to demonstrate compliance with our legal duties.

2 KEY POINTS IN THIS PAPER

This paper provides an annual overview of Safeguarding within the College specifically relating to:
- Context relating to Ofsted and KCSIE
- Reassurance on both SCR checks and summary of CPD statistics for all staff
- Links with external bodies
- Report on any staff safeguarding investigations (fully anonymised)
- Prevent, Radicalisation
- Summary of interventions
- Actions/development plans going forward.
- Impact on Students
- Key risks
- Conclusions/Recommendations

3 CONTEXTS RELATING TO OFSTED AND KCSI

3.1. Following the publication of the Ofsted report into sexual abuse in Schools in June 2021 and the focus on peer-on-peer abuse in the 2021 KCSIE statutory guidance, we provided staff training on the topic, tailored pastoral sessions for students, enhanced marketing around the campus and communicated with parents.

3.2. The full Ofsted inspection in November 2021 deemed arrangements for safeguarding at the College to be effective.

"Staff at all levels take their safeguarding responsibilities seriously. They act in the best interests of learners. They identify those that need additional support, and secure appropriate help for them. Learners rightly value the close focus that leaders have on safeguarding issues such as sexual harm. In the few instances when such issues occur, leaders and managers act swiftly and appropriately.

Leaders and managers respond well to the local risks that learners face outside College. They identify, for example, which groups of learners are at greater risk of knife crime, and prioritise tutorial support on this topic in conjunction with the local police force."

4 SINGLE CENTRAL RECORD AND STAFF CPD

4.1. A full review of the SCR has been undertaken by the Human Resource Manager and the Executive Director of Human Resources and regular checks take place to ensure compliance. The SCR continues to be monitored closely and updated promptly in line with any staffing changes. The Executive Director of Human Resources meets twice per year with the Safeguarding Governor to review the SCR and the last inspection was in November 2022 and it was determined it was fully compliant.

4.2. Safeguarding and Prevent continue to be key elements of the staff development and training plans within the College. The Executive Director of HR and the Director of Curriculum are key members of the Safeguarding Committee and provide updates to the Committee on process against mandatory training targets. This includes an online module on Safeguarding & Prevent via our Smartlog system.

4.3. Safeguarding is also a key part of the new Staff Induction. Staff are invited to a Staff Induction session, which includes an overview and briefing on the Safeguarding procedures for Moulton College, delivered by the Safeguarding Co-ordinators.

4.4. A comprehensive safeguarding induction is also included in the fortnightly induction schedules for new teaching staff, which allows for more detailed training, and this includes supporting and monitoring vulnerable learners, including Children in Care.

4.5. Completion of all mandatory Smartlog training and compliance with the statutory requirement to read and mark as read Part One of KCSIE, is a limiting element of the annual PDR process.

4.6. Table 1: Record of Mandatory Smartlog Training (September 2023)

Course Name	Assigned to Course	Completed Course	% Completion
DSE Users	423	366	86.5%
E-Safety	424	363	85.6%
Equality & Diversity Awareness	442	370	83.7%
Fire Awareness	442	381	86.2%
Health & Safety at Work	444	369	83.1%
Manual Handling	424	361	85.1%
Safeguarding & Prevent	444	365	82.2%
Slips, Trips & Falls in Education	422	355	84.1%
GDPR	421	351	83.4%
Overall	**3886**	**3281**	**84.4%**

4.7. The safeguarding team continue to deliver a range of relevant CPD sessions to curriculum and pastoral teams in response to emerging themes and identified risks. My Concern data is analysed by School and Course level to enable targeted CPD.

4.8. Table 2: Outline of Safeguarding related CPD delivered face to face and on-line.

Sessions Delivered by Safeguarding Team
Annual safeguarding update
Epilepsy update to LSAs.
CIC training to LSAs and SLT
Sessions Delivered by External Specialists
Diabetes training

5 ⚏ REPORT ON STAFF SAFEGUARDING INVESTIGATIONS (FULLY ANONYMISED)

A few members of staff including agency, received one to one safeguarding training focused on professional boundaries delivered by the Director of Student & Learning Support following allegations of inappropriate behaviour and a full investigation led by HR.

6   PREVENT UPDATE

6.1.   During 2022/23 the category of 'Extremism/Radicalisation' was issued 0 times, the same as in the previous year.

6.2.   Prevent and Radicalisation forms a key component of induction through the Run, Hide, Tell Campaign and is also revisited through a bespoke tutorial session which features, Prevent, British Values and On-line Safety

6.3.   Students are surveyed in each term to check their understanding of safeguarding and whether they feel safe. Where there are issues identified through the survey, follow up action is taken within each individual school. In Term 1 of 2022/23, the 'staying safe' indicator was 94% agree, which is identical to 21/22. This dropped slightly to 92% for the end of year survey, which is -2% of that point last year. All Schools were required to create action plans in response to the results at each survey to continue to drive our satisfaction ratings higher.

6.4.   The College continues to be a member of the Prevent Regional Steering group which is chaired by the East Midlands Regional Prevent Coordinator HE/FE and brings together other education providers from across Northampton and Northamptonshire. The Director of SEND and Student Experience is the Single Point of Contact (SPOC).

6.5.   Prevent data is presented at the Safeguarding Committee.

7.   LINKS WITH EXTERNAL AGENCIES

7.1   During 22/23 there have been 92 referrals to external agencies, this was up from 70 in 21/22. We are experiencing a higher number of students enrolling at the College with existing issues, which accounts for the increase in referrals.

7.2.   Table 3: Referrals to External Agencies

Organisation	Number of Referrals 22/23	Number of Referrals 21/22
Police	24	17
ACE	1	0
CAMHS	1	2
CIRV	1	0
Food bank	5	0
IAPT	2	0
LADO	3	0
NGAGE	4	7
MASH	17	23
Adult Social Care	4	7
Early Help	4	3
Rape Crisis	2	0
Young Carers	0	1
Serenity	10	2
Service Six	7	5
SAP	7	3
Lowdown	0	0
TOTAL	**92**	**70**

The Student Support Team have also attended 160 external meetings, which is a 15% increase on the previous year.

8. SUMMARY OF INTERVENTIONS

8.1. Referrals are received by the Safeguarding & Wellbeing Team throughout the year, although there is an identified increase at the beginning of the academic year when students first come to College. There is also increased activity with students who come to the College with support in place, and this is handed over to the safeguarding team by various agencies and professionals, including their previous school.

8.2. Predominantly many referrals in relation to safeguarding concerns are existing issues within a young person's life. The safeguarding team work to ensure continuity for the young person in terms of engagement with agencies and professionals. Where new issues are presented, there are a variety of support routes available to the College, from managing in house through pastoral support, to referring to a range of services including our Student Assistance Programme, Lowdown, GP or other health services, Social Care, or more specialist services.

8.3. The safeguarding team have dealt with 2183 concerns in 2022/23, which is an 17% increase on the previous year.

Table 4: Safeguarding Concerns: 3-year trends (excluding Covid)

2022-2023	2021/22	2020/21
2183	1,803	977

Table 5: Categories of referrals: 3-year trends (excluding Covid)

Top 10	2022-2023	2021-2022	2020-2021
1	Home Issues (231)	Mental health (207)	Mental health (230)
2	Mental Health (205)	Home issues (194)	Home issues (158)
3	Behaviour (179)	Anxiety (142)	Self-harm (96)
4	Low Level Behaviour (111)	Welfare (111)	Peer on peer abuse (74)
5	Peer on Peer Verbal Abuse (93)	Self-harm (107)	Suicidal thoughts (72)
6	Suicidal Thoughts (88)	Low mood (99)	Anxiety (49)
7	Attendance (80)	Behaviour (95)	Low mood (46)
8	Low Mood (80)	Attendance (83)	Attendance (40)
9	Self-Harm (68)	Suicidal thoughts (67)	Behaviour (40)
10	Anxiety (64)	Medical condition (48)	Welfare (38)

8.4. In relation to Table 6 below, combined mental health categories remain most common with 518 assigned during 22/23, which is an overall decrease of 15% on the previous year. Of note is the fact that there were 15 concerns raised in relation to students having made suicidal attempts.

Table 6: Categories relating to mental health: 3-year trends.

	2022/23	2021/22	2020/21
Anxiety	64	142	49
Depression	0	6	0
Emotional health	0	0	0
Low Mood	80	99	0
Mental health	205	207	230
Panic attack	0	23	0
Self-harm	68	107	96
Suicidal attempt	15	18	0
Suicidal thoughts	86	69	73
TOTAL	**518**	**671**	**493**

8.5. The drop (-2) in stand alone mental health concerns is representative of the national picture in relation to young peoples' mental health. We believe the consistent number of students presenting with mental health difficulties is partly related to the impact of the pandemic, but also as a result of insufficient professional specialist support.

8.6. Home issues category is our second most common cause of concern with 231 concerns raised, representing a 16% increase on the previous year. Generally, the issues relate to family dynamics, financial issues and mental health/addictions emerging with parents/guardians.

8.7. There has been an increase of 50% (from 2 to 4) in reports of harmful sexual behaviours and 66% in reports of sexual assault. This year we have added 'historical concern' as a category for concerns that relate to historic abuse rather than a current safeguarding matter so that we can more accurately report on current safeguarding risks rather than a case that has not occurred in College although the student still requires support.

Table 7: Categories relating to harmful sexual behaviours: 3-year trends.

	2022/23	2021/22	2020/21
Child Exploitation	1	0	1
Harmful Sexual Behaviour	4	2	0
Sexting	0	2	1
Sexual Abuse	0	6	22
Sexual Assault	27	18	0
Sexual Harassment	9	6	0
Sexualised Behaviour/Language	0	5	10
Historical Concern	19	-	-
TOTAL	**60**	**39**	**34**

8.8 There has been a 34% decrease in concerns raised for EHCP/High Needs learners. Although this is significant, it is in-line with the number of EHCP students enrolled for 2022/23.

8.9 Table 5: Total number of concerns from EHCP/High needs learners

2022/23	2021/22	2020/21
143	411	230

9. ACTION/DEVELOPMENT PLANS GOING FORWARD

9.1. In 2023/24 the plan is to have 3-weekly meetings with the Heads of Schools, to ensure both Schools and Safeguarding Team are working together and aware of all student issues. A new 7-minute briefing is to be introduced and sent to staff throughout the year. Regular analysis of concerns for every area to identify priority areas and provide staff training or work with the PDTs to deliver sessions to students in the PDT Tutorial session.

9.2. The opening of the new Wellbeing Hub 9am – 3pm daily. Allowing for both appointment bookings and drop ins. Recording the impact of the Support for Continuous Study programme in keeping students in college and achieving their goals.

10. IMPACT ON STUDENTS

10.1. The safeguarding arrangements within the College should have a positive impact on students to enable them to feel safe and supported at College.

10.2   The process for obtaining safeguarding files from previous schools has been enhanced, whereby all feeder schools are now contacted earlier and proactively chased for files, rather than waiting for schools to pass on information of relevance. In 2022/23 we received c.500 safeguarding files from previous schools for students who enrolled in September 2022. This ensures that the College are fully aware of exciting support needs and potential risks which leads to appropriate and timely support and risk management.

11.   KEY RISKS

11.1.   Safeguarding our students is a high priority and there are risks given the number of students with high level needs and complex mental health issues. The continued focus at Board and SLT level will ensure that the College meets its statutory obligations.

12.   CONCLUSION/RECOMMENDATIONS

12.1.   The Committee/Board are asked to note the contents of the report and recognise the significant increase in safeguarding cases being presented and the progress that has been made in developing robust policies and procedures for Moulton College.

Appendix 1: Top Three concerns by School 22/23

Top 3 concerns in college for 2022 to 2023	Concern 1	Concern 2	Concern 3
Animal Welfare	Mental health	Home Issues	Behaviour
Construction	Behaviour	Drugs	Home Issues
Land & Equine	Peer on Peer	Behaviour	Home Issues
Sport & Public Services	Home Issues	Mental Health	Low Level Unacceptable Behaviour
Foundation Learning	Home Issues	Peer on Peer	Relationship/Friendships
Higher Education			
Food & Drink	Mental Health	Low Mood	Medical Issue/Incident
Higham	Drugs	Home Issues	Relationship/Friendships