WEST HERTS COMMUNITY FREE SCHOOL TRUST

The Governors' Policy Statement on Safeguarding

The Trustees and Governors recognise their responsibility under section 175 of the Education Act 2002 to safeguard and promote the welfare of children. We are committed to working with other organisations and agencies to ensure good arrangements within the school to identify assess and support those children who are suffering harm or at risk of harm.

The principles on which our policies will be based apply to all trustees, governors, staff and volunteers working in or with the school. We will ensure that the following key elements are in place:

- we will establish a secure environment, for on-site and off-site school activities, in which children can feel safe, learn, develop and thrive;
- we will have strong systems and procedures for early intervention including on-site access to social work professionals;
- we will use our 'resilience' programme to help children and adults to build the confidence and emotional resilience to deal with adversity;
- we will ensure safe recruitment in checking the suitability of staff and other adults who work with the children;
- we will raise awareness of safeguarding issues and equip children with the skills they need to keep them safe;
- we will develop and implement procedures for identifying and supporting cases, or suspected cases of abuse;
- we will support children who are subject to neglect or abuse and contribute to their child protection plan;
- we will ensure that all visitors to the school are made aware of our commitment to safeguarding;
- we will regularly review our safeguarding policies and procedures to ensure they are fit for purpose.