

Online Safeguarding Policy

This policy applies to all employees, freelancers or anyone working on behalf of Articulacy UK Ltd (associates).

Articulacy UK Ltd offers a positive, safe learning environment for its community, in which everyone has equal and individual recognition and respect. We celebrate success and are committed to the continuous improvement and fulfilment of potential in every child. We encourage increasing independence and self-discipline amongst the pupils that we work with.

Everyone at Articulacy has an important role to play in sharing responsibility for the development of positive behaviour and attitudes.

The purpose of this policy is:

- To protect children and young people who receive Articulacy services online. This includes the children of adults who use our services.
- To provide staff and associates with the overarching principles that guide our approach to safeguarding online.

Articulacy believes that a child or young person should never have to experience abuse of any kind. We have a responsibility to promote the welfare of all children and young people, and to keep them safe. We are committed to practice in a way that protects them.

Legal framework

This policy has been drawn up based on law and guidance that seeks to protect children, namely:

- Children Act 1989
- Children Act 2004
- United Convention of the Right of the Child 1991
- Data Protection Act 1998
- General Data Protection Regulations 2018
- Protection of Freedoms Act 2012
- Relevant Government guidance on safeguarding children

We recognise that:

- The welfare of the child is paramount, as stated in the Children Act 1989.
- Some children are especially vulnerable due to the impact of previous experiences, their level of dependency, their communication needs or other issues.
- All children regardless of their age, disability, gender, race, religious beliefs, sexual orientation or identity have the right to equal protection from harm.
- The internet provides both opportunities and risks.
- We have the responsibility to protect anyone working for/with Articulacy UK Ltd (including students) when working online.

- Working in partnership with young people, their parents, vulnerable adults, carers and other agencies is essential in promoting the welfare of those we need to protect when online.

We will aim to keep children safe by:

- Appointing an online safety coordinator.
- Providing clear instructions about how to behave online for both students and staff.
- Supporting students to use the internet in a way that shows respect for others.
- Implementing thorough procedures and a code of practice for staff and associates which adopts child protection best practices.
- Recording and storing information professionally and securely in line with GDPR regulations 25th May 2018.
- Developing an online safety agreement for use by young people and their parents/carers.
- Providing effective management of all employees, freelancers or other associates through supervision, support, and training.
- Using our safeguarding procedures to manage any allegations against employees, freelancers or other associates appropriately.
- Ensuring that we have effective complaints and whistle blowing measures in place.
- Recruiting employees, freelancers or other associates using safer recruitment best practice, ensuring all necessary checks are completed.
- Sharing information about child protection and good practice with children, parents/carers, employees, freelancers or other associates.
- Sharing concerns with relevant agencies and involving parents/carers and children appropriately.
- Informing all Articulacy's service users of our policies and safeguarding expectations.
- Risk assessing the use of any platforms used online.

If online abuse occurs, we will respond by:

- Providing support and training for staff and volunteers on dealing with abuse.
- Having clear and robust procedures in place to respond to abuse.
- Making sure our response takes the needs of the victim and any bystander into account.
- Reviewing the response plan at regular intervals.

This policy should be read alongside all other relevant Articulacy UK Ltd policies and 'Keeping Children Safe in Education and Safeguarding Policy'.

This policy was last reviewed by Articulacy on 1st September 2020

Signed on behalf of Articulacy



Print name here

Leanne Fennell

Date

1st September 2020