

GOT (Getting On Together) Safeguarding Policy

Summary

(A) WHAT IS SAFEGUARDING?

Safeguarding children and adults:

Children:

Whilst there is no statutory definition of safeguarding, 'Safeguarding children: working together under the Children Act 2004' sets out that safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children is concerned with:

- protecting children from abuse and neglect
- preventing impairment of their health or development
- ensuring that they receive safe and effective care (1.)
- preventing radicalisation and exploitation (2.)

Vulnerable adults:

Again, there is no statutory definition.

An "adult at risk", for the purposes of this policy, is an adult who -

1. is experiencing or is at risk of abuse or neglect

(1) See Estyn [Definition of safeguarding | Estyn \(gov.wales\)](#)

(2) Ibid

(3) ibid

1. INTRODUCTION -

PURPOSE

(A)General Principles:

GOT (The Getting On Together Project) - regards the safety and welfare of children, young people and vulnerable adults as being of paramount importance.

We are aware of this commitment in all our work - both online and in person.

GOT, its associates and partners - and anyone else working with us - have a duty to report any disclosures or safeguarding concerns they may have.

This policy sets out the procedures to be followed when reporting any such concerns [within the specific contexts outlined below:](#)

(B)Specific Principles:

- All those who take part in GOT programmes - be they children, young people or adults - have the right to challenge and debate respectfully, in a safe space, without fear from any threats or harms, abuse, bullying, recrimination or discrimination.
- The above purpose exists regardless of the participant's background, culture, age, disability, gender, ethnicity or religious belief.

The GOT Project is a series of inter-locking educational interventions (teaching programmes) developed principally, but not exclusively, for primary and secondary school students. These programmes comprise exemplar lessons - filmed and in print - and accompanying student and teacher resources spanning the three key stages from primary through to secondary: KS2, KS3 and KS4.

The four key aims of GOT are:

- 1) To counter intolerance and extremism through independent and critical thinking.
- 2) To facilitate knowledge and understanding of the non-violent message of the Islamic faith.
- 3) To reduce prejudice and discrimination between all cultures, faiths and creeds.
- 4) To promote integrated and cohesive communities.

GOT also provides complementary workshops for teachers, senior managers and advisers to acquire enhanced knowledge and understanding of extremism, (online) radicalisation and terrorism against the backdrop of the UK government's 2015 Prevent legislation, Estyn/Ofsted CIF (Common Inspection Framework) and other relevant wellbeing/ safeguarding guidance documents.

2. THE LEARNING-TEACHING ENVIRONMENT AND SAFEGUARDING

- a. Schools have an important role to play by providing a safe space for learners to explore, discuss and debate the range of social and political issues in our rapidly changing world.
- b. It is important to develop young people's skills to be able to engage as active citizens in a democratic society, developing critical thinking skills so that they become resilient to and equipped to challenge divisive viewpoints and hate speech.
- c. Staff should have a clear understanding of how the holding of views which endorse extremism can lead to safeguarding issues for the wellbeing of the individual young person.¹
- d. Staff members should model to learners how diverse views can be heard, analysed and challenged in a way which values dignity, freedom of speech, and freedom from harm. Establishments should consider the professional development needs of staff, to build capacity so that teachers are better equipped to deal with potential safeguarding issues.²
- e. In the course of delivering workshops to staff and students, GOT trainers, associates and collaborators should be aware of:
 - o Any deviation from the guiding principles highlighted in points c. and d. above where participating adults - teachers and others - infringe e.g. the dignity of others and/or speak out against the 'Specific principles' as outlined above, and act on:
 - o A disclosure relevant to safeguarding made by a participating adult,
 - o A disclosure made by a student.

¹ [Safeguarding - Prevent radicalisation and extremism | Learning resources | National Improvement Hub \(education.gov.scot\)](#)

² *ibid*

3. SHARING AND REPORTING DISCLOSURES: WHAT DO I NEED TO DO?

The GOT director, GOT associates and GOT collaborators have a duty to share any disclosures or concerns they may have about the safety and wellbeing of children and (vulnerable) adults.

The DSP within GOT is its director, who makes himself known to all participating organisations and individuals.

The sharing of information may require consultation with relevant 'others' such as the named LA lead person in the local authority receiving the training - whether online or in person.

Key principles regarding the sharing of information:

1. **Necessary and proportionate** - When taking decisions about what information to share, how much information that needs to be released is paramount. Not sharing more data than is necessary to be of use is a key element of the GDPR and Data Protection Act 2018. Information must be proportionate to the need and level of risk
2. **Relevant** - Only information that is relevant to the purposes should be shared with those who need it. This allows others to do their job effectively and make informed decisions.
3. **Adequate** - Information should be adequate for its purpose. Information should be of the right quality to ensure that it can be understood and relied upon.
4. **Accurate** - Information should be accurate and up to date and should clearly distinguish between fact and opinion. If the information is historical then this should be explained.
5. **Timely** - Information should be shared in a timely fashion to reduce the risk of missed opportunities to offer support and protection to a child. Timeliness is key in emergency situations and it may not be appropriate to seek consent for information-sharing if it could cause delays and therefore place a child, young person or adult - or the wider public - at increased risk of harm.
6. **Secure** - Wherever possible, information should be shared in an appropriate, secure way.
7. **Record** - Information-sharing decisions should be recorded, whether or not the decision is taken to share. If the decision is to share, reasons should be cited including what information has been shared and with whom. The information should not be kept any longer than is necessary (1)

N.B. It is NOT the role of GOT/its associates to investigate or seek out evidence on matters relating to safeguarding concerns.

GOT Nominated DSP:

Barrie Phillips
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(B) SAFEGUARDING IMPERATIVES WITH SPECIFIC REFERENCE TO SECTION 26 OF THE COUNTER TERRORISM ACT 2015 (1)

The statutory Prevent Duty requires front line staff to consider the need to safeguard people from being drawn into terrorism and vulnerable people from radicalisation. However, safeguarding vulnerable people is important whether you are a statutory or a non-statutory organisation. Therefore this policy promotes good practice in safeguarding procedures at The GOT Project and The GOT Project treats a Prevent safeguarding concern no differently from safeguarding young people or adults from other forms of harm such as sexual exploitation or serious organised crime. Prevent should also be made reference to in other policy documents such as Safeguarding, ICT (i.e. concerns around vulnerability to online radicalisation) and Guest Speaker policies.

Any concerns should be initially reported to Barrie Phillips (DSP – The GOT Project) and then the following referral process enacted:

Adult Referrals:

A referral is made by completing the All Wales Partners Prevent Referral Form:

<https://digitalservices.south-wales.police.uk/en/all-wales-prevent-partners-referral-form/>

This should be accompanied by a referral to the Adult Safeguarding Team at Cardiff Council. More information can be found using the link below:

<https://www.cardiff.gov.uk/ENG/resident/Social-Services-and-wellbeing/safeguarding/Pages/default.aspx>

Children and Young People Referrals

A referral is made by completing the All Wales Partners Prevent Referral Form:

<https://digitalservices.south-wales.police.uk/en/all-wales-prevent-partners-referral-form/>

This should be accompanied by a Multi-Agency Referral Form (MARF) submitted to e.g. Cardiff Council Children Services at CSMASH@Cardiff.gov.uk

Staff Training

It is recommended that Prevent is identified within any annual safeguarding training undertaken and in addition bespoke Prevent training to be completed on a biennial basis for existing staff and part of an induction programme for new staff, due to the constantly evolving threat and risk picture. This can be done by contacting e.g. Andrew Jones, Prevent Community Engagement Officer for Cardiff.

Date of last Prevent training: June 2022

Date of next Prevent training: January 2023

This policy summary was last reviewed on 24th August 2022

Signed..... *B. Phillips*

Date..... *24/8/2022*