**MEETING OF THE FYLDE COAST ACADEMY TRUST
SAFEGUARDING BOARD**

Meeting No. 11

Date:	Thursday 9th June 2016
Venue:	Unity Academy
Time:	4.15pm

Present: Dr David Sanders (Chair)
Ms Fiona Bate (SENCO and Leader of Student Services, Hodgson Academy)
Mr Simon Brennand (Senior Vice Principal, Unity Academy)
Mr Roger Cameron (Chair of Governors & Safeguarding Governor, Hambleton Primary Academy)
Mr Chris McConnachie (Safeguarding Governor, Hodgson Academy)
Mr Stuart Ormson (Designated Safeguarding Officer, Blackpool Sixth Form College)
Ms Gill Smith (Assistant Principal: Personal Development and Welfare, Montgomery High School)
Ms Holly Wood (Principal, Hambleton Primary Academy)
Ms Gail Yeadon (Deputy Principal, Blackpool Sixth Form College)

Ms Laura Ferris (FCAT HR Business Partner) – for part of the meeting
Mrs Kath Buddle (FCAT Governance Administrator – minutes)

Apologies: Apologies were received and accepted from Nicola Anderson, Phil Anderton, Alana Frith, Gail Neale, Neill Oldham and Lisa Shuttleworth-Brown,

Action

1. **Preliminaries**
   The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and especially Roger Cameron, Chair of Governors at Hambleton Primary Academy who was attending his first meeting.

   Introductions were made.

   Apologies were noted.

2. **Declarations of interest**
   None.

3. **Minutes of the meeting held on 25th April 2016**
   The minutes were approved.

4. **Matters arising from the minutes not covered elsewhere on the agenda**

   4.1 **Counselling for case managers –extension of deadline for free access to services** (Item 5.1 from the previous minutes) – the Clerk confirmed that Pauline Howard from New Routes had agreed to extend her offer of free access to her counselling services until the end of July 2016. Access to Pauline was via Laura Ferris, FCAT HR Business Partner.

   In response to a question from the Chair about use of the service, LF reported that although there had been some take up by individual

members of staff, there had been no take up yet of the group counselling/coaching option despite senior line managers being made aware of it.

4.2 Feedback from Blackpool Council re issues raised by students (Items 7.1 and 7.3 from the previous minutes) – the Chair reported that he had met with John Blackledge, Director of Community and Environmental Services at Blackpool Council and that he had agreed to consider the issues raised by students in respect of safety and lighting in parks and other sites across the borough. John had also been invited to join the Blackpool Local Safeguarding Board (LSB). The Clerk was asked to keep this item on the agenda for the next meeting for an update on progress.

Clerk (agenda)

4.3 Staff Training on Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) (Item 9 from the previous minutes) – GY reported that Blackpool Sixth Form College would be arranging training to take place in November 2016. FCAT Safeguarding Board partners would be invited to take up some of the places on the course. The Clerk was asked to circulate details once the session had been confirmed.

GY/Clerk

4.4 FCAT Safeguarding Policy (Item 9 from the previous minutes) – the Clerk confirmed that the revised Policy had been approved by FCAT Directors at their last meeting.

5. FCAT Whistleblowing Policy

The Board considered the draft FCAT Whistleblowing Policy (Paper 5), which had been revised by Laura Ferris following a discussion at the previous meeting. LF explained that the aim had been to provide staff with an accessible document with clear instructions on how to raise concerns whilst at the same time ensuring legal compliance.

The latest version of the policy included information on who to contact about raising concerns, including when the concern was about a line manager. There were also sections on how FCAT will respond to a concern, what staff should do if they are not satisfied with the way their concern has been dealt with and how false and malicious concerns will be handled.

In response to a comment from one of the Board members, LF agreed to strengthen section 7.3 of the policy to state that staff 'must' raise any concerns they have about the safety and welfare of children (rather than 'be encouraged to utilise the procedure' as stated) and that these concerns should be raised with the Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) in the first instance. The final page, an appendix of points of contact would be revised on a regular basis to ensure it was kept up to date.

LF also agreed to include additional information on the fact that FCAT is working to develop a culture of transparency and to encourage dialogue on concerns members of staff had. She explained that the final document would be approved by the FCAT Executive Group.

The Chair asked that contact details be shared on staff notice boards to encourage staff to raise any concerns, and to include the name, phone number and email address of the Directors of Children's Services at Blackpool Council and Lancashire County Council.

The Chair thanked LF for her work in developing a very robust policy and she left

the meeting.

6. **Impact of permanent exclusions on safeguarding**
   The Board discussed the safeguarding impact of permanent exclusions, noting that the rate of these was significantly higher in Blackpool than the national average. The Chair explained that Blackpool had the largest Pupil Referral Unit (PRU) in the country and a significantly higher than national average number of children and young people outside mainstream education. Blackpool LSB would be debating the issues at their next meeting and the Chair agreed to provide feedback from this to the rest of the FCAT Safeguarding Board.

   GY reported that a piece of work on the impact of exclusions of young people up to the age of 18 would be taken to the Blackpool Challenge Partnership for discussion. It was acknowledged that children and young people, including young people over the age of 16, were at an increased risk of harm if they were missing from mainstream education.

   Asked if the Police had a duty to ensure school age children and young people were attending school, the Chair explained that, although there was no legal requirement for this, local Police did understand the safeguarding implications of truanting and did commit to returning children to school when they were able to do so.

   SO and SB explained that the recommended time frame of 10 days before reporting children missing from education was much longer than schools actually worked to. Staff were in daily contact with students missing from education and would have triggered interventions from other agencies by 10 days unless satisfied that an absence was genuine. Arrangements to contact vulnerable students were also in place as soon as they did not turn up for school.

   Following a brief discussion, it was agreed to return to this topic at the next meeting. SO, SB and HW agreed to lead the debate.

   DS/Clerk (agenda)

   SO/SB/HW Clerk (agenda)

7. **Use of part time timetables and alternative provision to address behaviour**
   A brief discussion on guidelines on the use of part time timetables (Paper 7) took place. Board members acknowledged that alternatives to full time mainstream education took place on a regular basis in order to provide appropriate support for children and young people and to avoid permanent exclusions where possible, and that these instances were properly monitored.

   Concerns about the increasing number of children being educated at home were discussed and the seemingly lenient regulations in respect of monitoring on this issue despite the significant safeguarding risks were noted.

8. **Report to FCAT Board of Directors**
   The Board reviewed the second report to the FCAT Board of Directors which would go to their July 2016 meeting (Paper 8). The report was approved with the inclusion of additional information on the impact of the peer reviews.

   Clerk to amend

9. **Recent Safeguarding Case Study**
   The Board considered a case study provided by one of the partner organisations which highlighted the dangers of the use of social media. The need to ensure that children and young people increased their resilience to the risks involved and that parents understood the full implications were identified as the key learning points.

   Following the discussion, it was agreed that each organisation would bring

All/ Clerk
(agenda)

information on what they were doing to counteract the risks of social media to the next meeting in order to inform a further debate on the issue.

10. National Developments
The Chair provided information on a national review of Local Safeguarding Children Boards (LSCBs) being carried out by Alan Wood, Director of Children's Services, London Borough of Hackney. The review would be focussing on three key areas:

- Child Death Overview Panels – looking particularly at neo-natal deaths and the benefit of moving responsibility over to the NHS from Public Health.
- Serious Case Reviews (SCRs) – looking at the national profile of area wide cases e.g. Rotherham and the learning from these.
- Lead agency for safeguarding – considering whether or not responsibility should remain with the LSCBs and the role of the three key services, Police, Health Service and Education, within these. Included in this part of the review was consideration of the potential for merging LSCBs in order to ensure effectiveness and co-ordination over a wider area which could lead to the development of a pan Lancashire LSCB. At the moment only one of these arrangements was in place - a tri-borough partnership in London, though there were discussions taking place across Greater Manchester to consider a similar model.

The review was expected to be completed by Autumn 2016 with recommendations put in place from early 2017.

The Board discussed changes due to take place across Children and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS) and questioned the appropriateness of Blackpool's response to this which was to move the local service to Blackpool Victoria Hospital's Accident and Emergency (A&E) Department. Board members felt that the case load was too big to allow effective handling of cases from A&E and would foster a change of direction away from preventative and early intervention strategies to straight prescriptive services.

Following the discussion, it was agreed to discuss the impact of changes to the service in more detail. Board members were asked to bring the numbers of referrals made to CAMHS to the meeting to help inform the discussion.

All/ Clerk
(agenda)

11. E-safety information for Parents
No new information was available.

12. Blackpool LSCB Shadow Board
SB provided NA's summary of the key issues discussed at the last meeting of the Blackpool LSCB Shadow Board.

The meeting had considered the use of part time timetables and alternative provision to full time mainstream education, the importance of monitoring the use of this and the requirement to reintegrate students to classrooms as quickly as possible.

Also discussed was the frequency of the use of escalation processes in respect of Social Care referrals and the potential to work jointly on specific cases to bring about more positive outcomes.

In response to a request from GY, the Chair agreed to raise concerns about the safeguarding impacts on young people not in education, employment or training (NEET) and the role that Blackpool Sixth Form College might play to help

Chair

improve these, at the LSCB Shadow Board.

13. Structure and content of meetings for 2016-2017
The Board reviewed the proposed structure and content for meetings over the 2016-2017 academic year (Paper 13) and these were agreed with some additions. Venues for the meetings were also agreed. The Clerk was asked to amend the table and reissue it to Board members.

Clerk

14. Identification of any new risk areas
The Board considered the latest version of the Safeguarding Risk Register (Paper 14) and agreed amendments which the Clerk agreed to make. The following new/revised risks were identified:

Clerk

- Changes to CAMHS
- Use of social media and the implications for young people/parents/staff.

15. Any other business
The Chair informed the meeting of further changes made to 'Keeping Children Safe in Education' which were shown on pages 63 – 64 of the document. The Clerk agreed to circulate these for staff training needs and to amend the FCAT Safeguarding Policy in response to the changes for the next meeting.

Clerk

16. Date and time of next meeting
Thursday 13th October 2016 at 4.15pm
Hambleton Primary Academy

Signed: _____(Chair)

Date: _____

Appendix A

FCAT Safeguarding Board draft agenda items 2016-17

Thursday 13th October 2016 **Hambleton Primary Academy**	• Review Membership and Terms of Reference • Feedback from Blackpool Council on progress to address safeguarding issues raised by students. • Agree content and structure for student engagement section of the next meetings. • Discuss potential to identify primary pupils' safeguarding priorities • Debate on safeguarding impact of permanent exclusions – S Ormson, S Brennand and H Wood. • Strategies to address risks of using social media. • Implications of changes to CAMHS. • Safeguarding Peer Review developments • Review of safeguarding training • Review revised FCAT Safeguarding Policy • E-safety update • LSCB Shadow Board update • National developments • Review FCAT Safeguarding Risks 1 - 5 • Case study – Montgomery High School
Tuesday 29th November 2016 **Blackpool Sixth Form College**	**Part 1**: Discussion on safeguarding issues with student representatives from Blackpool Sixth Form College and Aspire Academy. **Part 2**: General meeting • Implications of issues raised in Part 1 • E-safety update • LSCB Shadow Board update • National developments • Review FCAT Safeguarding Risks 6 - 10 • Case Study – Blackpool Sixth Form College
Thursday 9th February 2017 **Montgomery High School**	**Part 1:** Discussion on safeguarding issues with student representatives from Unity Academy and Montgomery High School. **Part 2:** General meeting • Implications of issues raised in Part 1 • Agree 1st report to Corporations/Board • E-safety update • LSCB Shadow Board update • National developments • Review FCAT Safeguarding Risks 11 - 15 • Case Study – Unity Academy

Thursday 27th April 2017
 	
Hodgson Academy
	Part 1: Discussion on safeguarding issues with student representatives from Hodgson Academy.
	
	Part 2: General meeting
	    Implications of issues raised in Part 1
	    E-safety update
	    LSCB Shadow Board update
	    National developments
	    Review FCAT Safeguarding Risks 16 - 20
	    Case study – Hodgson Academy

Tuesday 20th June 2017 **Aspire Academy**	Review FCAT Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy E-safety update LSCB Shadow Board update National developments Review FCAT Safeguarding Risks 21 onwards Case study – Aspire Academy