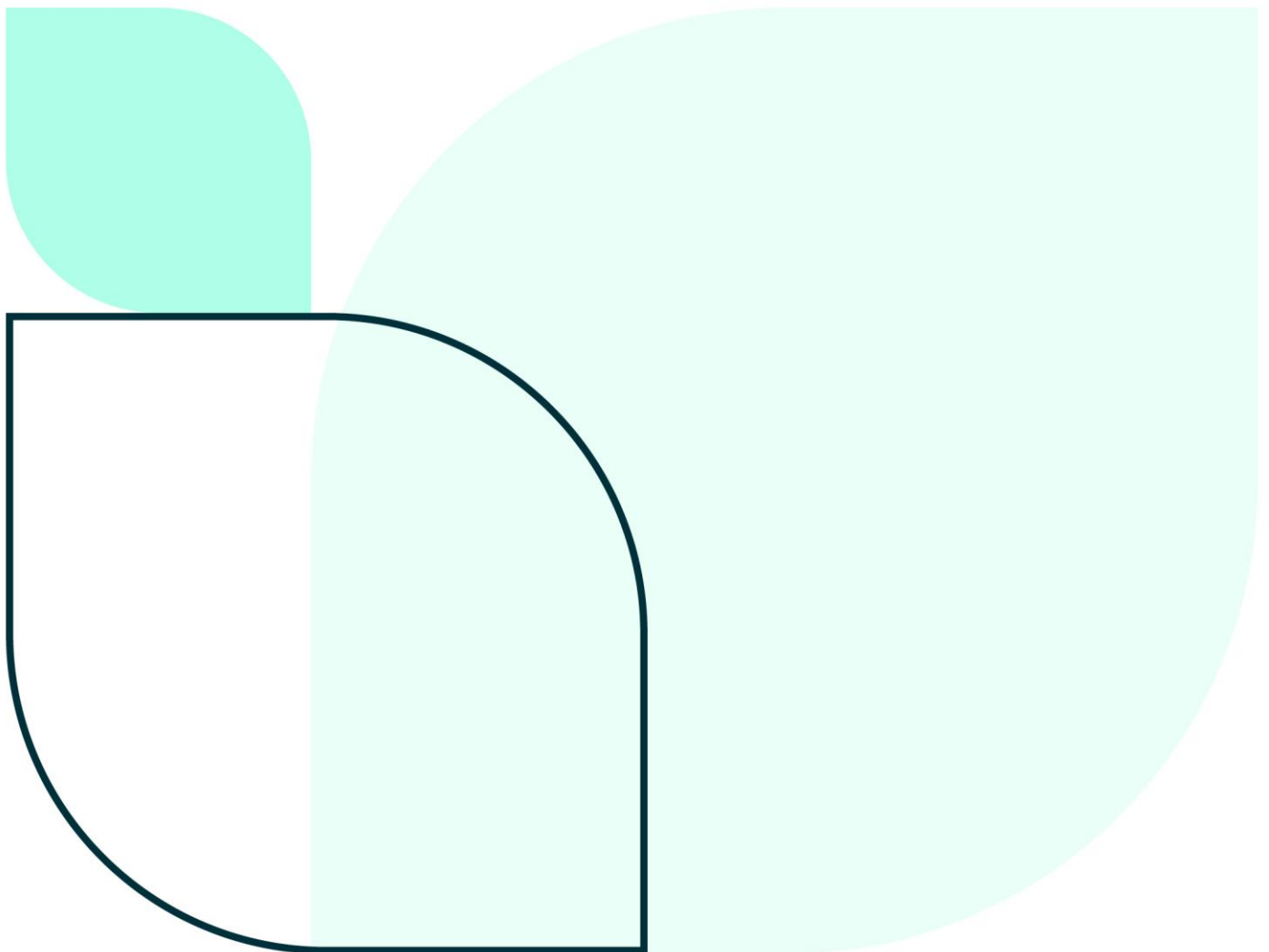




**Statutory Inspection of  
Anglican & Methodist Schools**  
National Society for Education

# SIAMS Safeguarding Policy

December 2024





## Introduction

1. The Church of England Vision for Education states: ‘Human dignity, the ultimate worth of each person, is central to good education...’
2. This includes ‘vigilant safeguarding’ (Church of England Vision for Education). In the same way as the National Society for Education (NSE) expects this from schools, it must hold all areas of its own work to the same standard.
3. The NSE commits itself to seeing ‘life in all its fullness’ for the members of the team, as well as for external stakeholders.

## 1. Inspectors’ responsibilities

- 1.1. SIAMS does not inspect or report on safeguarding. This responsibility sits with Ofsted.
- 1.2. Under Inspection Question 4, SIAMS inspectors explore how the school’s vision creates a culture in which pupils and adults are treated well. It is not possible for an inspector to report positively on this if they have evidence that pupils and adults do not feel safe in any way.
- 1.3. Inspectors therefore have a responsibility to ensure that their evidence base for IQ4 is robust and has been sufficiently triangulated.
- 1.4. All inspectors must familiarise themselves with the inspected school’s Safeguarding Policy either before the day/s of the inspection or at the start of the inspection. In doing so, they should ensure that they know to whom they should report safeguarding concerns (including disclosures) involving pupils or adults during the course of the inspection.
- 1.5. In the case of a disclosure, and immediately after speaking with the school’s designated safeguarding lead, or deputy designated safeguarding lead in their absence, the inspector should contact the SIAMS duty desk. If the inspector is accompanied by a QA inspector, the inspector should ensure that the QA inspector is informed instead. In this case, there is no requirement for the inspector to contact the duty desk.
- 1.6. Having made contact, the inspector should ask the QA inspector (either on the duty desk or in-school) to record the occurrence of the incident. This should include details of the school, the date, time and the inspector’s actions. It should not include details of the disclosure itself.
- 1.7. Before the inspector leaves the school at the end of the inspection they should check with the DSL (or DDSL) that the disclosure has been appropriately dealt with in line with the requirements in Keeping Children Safe in Education<sup>1</sup>.
- 1.8. Immediately after the inspection if a child is at risk of imminent harm, and the next morning at the very latest for all other concerns, the inspector should write to the school’s DSL requesting written confirmation that the incident has been dealt with appropriately. The inspector should make it clear that this confirmation will be passed to the Director of SIAMS to be stored in a secure location by the NSE’s DSL(s). The written confirmation should, therefore, contain no identifying information, such as names of children or details of the disclosure. It should just include the name of the school, the date of the disclosure, and assurance that it has been dealt with in line with Keeping Children Safe in Education. Once received, the inspector should pass this confirmation directly to the Director of SIAMS.

## 2. Responsibilities of the national SIAMS team

- 2.1. The national SIAMS team must, at all times, operate within the National Society for Education’s (NSE) Safeguarding Statement and the NCIs’ Safeguarding Policy<sup>2</sup>.

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<sup>1</sup> [Keeping children safe in education 2024](#)

<sup>2</sup> [NCIs Safeguarding Policy 1.docx](#)



- 2.2. On receipt of confirmation that a disclosure has been dealt with appropriately, the Director of SIAMS, or in their absence the Deputy Director, should pass the information to the NSE's DSL(s) or their absence the Deputy DSL. The DSL or Deputy DSL will store this information in a secure location in line with NSE policy and where necessary (if the disclosure relates to a risk of harm to a child) will report this to the National Safeguarding Team.
- 2.3. The DSL or Deputy DSL will then advise if any further action is required.

**National Society for Education**

Church House  
Great Smith Street  
London SW1P 3AZ

**T:** 020 7898 1885

**W:** [churchofengland.org/education](https://www.churchofengland.org/education)

**E:** [siams@churchofengland.org](mailto:siams@churchofengland.org)