

Mountjoy School

Allegations Management Statement

March 2024



This is a Mountjoy School Policy
Reviewed by: Resources Committee

Date: **March 2024**
Date of next review: **March 2025**

The procedures relating to Allegations Management should be followed when it is alleged that a member of staff has:

- behaved in a way that has harmed a child, or may have harmed a child
- possibly committed a criminal offence against or related to a child
- behaved towards a child or children in a way that indicates they may/would pose a risk of harm to children
- behaved or may have behaved in a way that indicates they may not be suitable to work with children.

All staff in schools should be instructed that any allegation should be reported immediately to the Head Teacher or Deputy Head Teacher. The only exception to this is if the allegation concerns the Head Teacher, in which case the allegation should be reported to the Chair of Governors. This instruction should be given to new staff as part of their induction, and all staff should be regularly reminded that such allegations must be reported as above. Written school procedures should reflect this guidance.

On being advised of an allegation which meets the criteria, the Head Teacher or Chair of Governors should contact the Designated Officer from Local Authority within one working day.

The Designated Officer from Local Authority's role is to "provide advice and guidance to schools and FE colleges, in addition to liaising with the police and other agencies, and monitoring the progress of cases to ensure that they are dealt with as quickly as possible, consistent with a thorough and fair process".

The LADO can be contacted directly on:

01305 221122 or LADO@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk

Any historical allegations of abuse against that member of staff should be referred to the Police or to the LADO.

All allegations against staff in schools are dealt with in accordance with Keeping Children Safe In Education (KCSIE), which is updated annually.

More information on KCSIE can be found here:

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/64f0a68ea78c5f000dc6f3b2/Keeping_children_safe_in_education_2023.pdf