

ASES – Safeguarding Video Transcript

Hello everyone, and welcome.

My name is Candice, and I am the Lead Designated Safeguarding Lead, or DSL, for City of London Adult Education. I would like to take a few minutes to introduce myself, explain what safeguarding means in further education, and most importantly, reassure you that you are supported while you are learning with us.

Safeguarding is about ensuring that you feel safe, respected, listened to and protected throughout your time here. It is not only about serious incidents. It is also about wellbeing, dignity, and making sure that learning is a positive and secure experience for everyone.

You are not alone in this. Alongside me, we have a safeguarding team made up of Catherine, Robin and Rahil. We work closely together to support both learners and staff, and any one of us can help if you have a concern or simply need some advice.

So, what does safeguarding mean in further education?

In this context, safeguarding means protecting learners from harm, abuse, neglect, exploitation, bullying, harassment, or anything that could negatively affect your wellbeing or your ability to learn. This includes concerns about mental health, online safety, financial or domestic abuse, discrimination, or feeling unsafe either within or outside the learning environment.

If something does not feel right, that is important. You do not need evidence, and you do not need to be completely certain. You simply need to speak to someone.

If you have a safeguarding concern, you can report it by speaking to your tutor, any member of staff you trust, or directly to me as the Lead DSL. You can also contact Catherine, Robin or Rahil. We will listen carefully, take your concern seriously, and explain clearly what will happen next. All concerns are handled with care, professionalism and confidentiality.

My email address is [insert City of London Adult Education email here]. You can contact me at any time if you are worried about yourself or someone else, or if you are unsure whether something is a safeguarding issue. It is always better to ask.

Some examples of concerns might include feeling unsafe, anxious or distressed; experiencing bullying, harassment or discrimination; concerns about abuse, neglect or exploitation; sudden changes in behaviour or wellbeing; worries about online activity or radical influences; or concerns about another learner.

You do not have to manage any of this on your own. That is what we are here for.

I would also like to briefly explain Prevent.

Prevent forms part of safeguarding. It focuses on protecting people from being drawn into extremism or radicalisation. It is not about blame or judgement. It is about offering early support, encouraging open conversations, and ensuring that everyone feels included, heard and safe to express themselves in a healthy and respectful way.

Prevent is underpinned by British values such as democracy, respect, tolerance and individual liberty. It supports the creation of learning spaces where differences are respected and everyone feels that they belong.

Above all, our commitment is to ensure that you feel safe at all times while learning with us — safe to be yourself, safe to speak up, and safe to succeed.

Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility, but you are never expected to handle concerns alone. Support is always available.

Thank you for taking the time to listen. We are delighted to have you learning with us, and we are here to support you every step of the way.