



Terms of Reference

Education and Learning Relevant Agencies Group

Role and Function of the Education and Learning Relevant Agencies Group (ELRAG)

The Education and Learning Relevant Agencies Group (ELRAG) will ensure that, in line with Section 175 (and 157) of the Education Act 2002, all children and young people aged between 0 and 19 within any school in Solihull remain safe. All schools in Solihull are named as Relevant Agencies of the Local Safeguarding Children Partnership (LSCP) and these include; all maintained schools (including maintained nursery schools), colleges; independent schools (including academies, free schools and alternative provision academies), all non-maintained special schools and all pupil referral units (PRUs).

The Group will also engage as fully as possible with educational settings where children and young people learn, but which are not named as Relevant Agencies such as; training providers and the education related services that support children and young people outside of these settings, religious places of learning which are not registered as schools under Ofsted.

The Education and Learning Relevant Agencies Group (ELRAG) will primarily reflect on activities within schools and will highlight concerns, trends and good practice, for example from Safeguarding Audits and training, to the Assurance and Review Group for suggestions of onward activity to the LSCP.

This will be achieved by:

1. Ensuring that all educational settings have suitable policies and procedures in place to safeguard children and that these are in line with statutory guidance (*Keeping Children Safe in Education 2018*) and (LSCP) guidance.
2. Ensuring engagement with the LSCP and promoting good communication and awareness amongst education, early years and training professionals regarding practices and procedures and local initiatives maintained and managed by the LSCP.

3. Identifying trends and concerns related to the work of the LSCP, and any in addition to this work, and ensuring that these are highlighted to the Assurance and Review Group of the LSCP.
4. Taking forward learning from the Response and Delivery Group of the LSCP at local level and ensuring that this is disseminated in all relevant settings.
5. Publicising national policies and cross agency child protection issues to promote awareness for all professionals in educational Relevant Agencies.
6. Overseeing the annual Section 157/175 (Education Act 2002) safeguarding audit and monitoring aspects of safeguarding in educational Relevant Agencies.
7. Monitoring the delivery and uptake of single agency training in order to target provision, aid policy decisions and ensure settings are aware of changes within safeguarding.
8. Undertaking work requested by the LSCP or Assurance and Review Group regarding safeguarding issues and reporting back progress made and any barriers to progress.

The ELRAG will also implement the duty under sections 175 and 157 of the Education Act 2002 - 'Duties of Local Authorities and Governing Bodies in relation to welfare of children' by ensuring arrangements are in place to safeguard and promote the welfare of children in schools in Solihull and use these duties as a bench mark for agencies providing education and training for children and which are not covered by the Act.

Accountability

The ELRAG will be accountable to the three safeguarding partners within the LSCP which includes the Director of Children's Services.

Involvement/participation of children, young people and parents/carers

The group will actively consult with young people through appropriate channels, particularly through the youth service and available consultative forums within schools. The group will also take into account research in relation to young people and their needs relating to safeguarding.

All settings working with children and young people will consider their needs and aspirations when contributing to the work of the group.

The group will endeavour to actively consult parents. School representatives will consider consultation processes with their existing parent groups (such as School Parent Forums).

Diversity

The group will have regard to diversity issues in all its work and will liaise with the Directorate Equality and Diversity Group when appropriate to do so.

The group will promote diversity awareness when considering training packages, promote expected tolerance through its policies and procedures, and will promote these values in schools and other establishments.

Frequency of meeting:

Bi-monthly during term time

Membership:

Chair – Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council

- Two schools from each of the Collaboratives attending the Group, one from a primary and one from a secondary school
- Special schools
- Two independent schools
- Early Years (via private nurseries, child minders or Children's Centres)
- SWFT (School nurses)
- School Governors
- Colleges or post 16 providers
- Bespoke training providers
- Pupil Referral Units
- External Education Welfare Support (e.g. CSAWs)
- Local Police representative from the Solihull Police and Schools' Partnership.
- Any other places where children learn but which is not registered as a school e.g. Madrasahs, bespoke apprenticeships and Sunday Schools.

Quorum:

Representation from three member agencies