



Mathematics Recovery Council UK & Ireland Safeguarding Policy

Safeguarding Children & Adults

The ultimate beneficiaries of the Mathematics Recovery council UK & Ireland (MRC) are the children who are taught by the adults whom we train as Mathematics Recovery Teachers. This includes all children, some of whom have Special Educational Needs or are part of other vulnerable groups. Our Safeguarding Policy has regard to the safety and rights of all these children, as well as those of the adults whom we train and those of our own trustees and staff.

Procedures

- **Trustee and staff awareness:**

All staff and trustees must be aware of the range and nature of safeguarding issues for children. They must read the HM Government publication, 'What to do if you're worried a child is being abused' (Crown copyright 2015), which is given as Addend 1, upon appointment. In addition, they should be aware of the counter-terrorism Prevent guidance, which is available at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/prevent-duty-guidance>. Safeguarding will be on the agenda of the Annual General Meeting, which will draw the attention of trustees and staff to any relevant new or revised guidance, so that they can read it.

- **Bodies in the UK which perform Safeguarding checks and issue Guidance:**

In England and Wales, the relevant body is the Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS). As the registered address of the MRC is in England, the rest of this policy refers to the DBS procedures.

When a DBS check is made on a staff member, the police are able to consult with corresponding agencies in other countries and to include information about possibly relevant offences committed abroad. The MRC will take these into account, when considering the results from checks.

In Scotland, the relevant agency is Disclosure Scotland. In Northern Ireland, it is AccessNI. The procedures for these two agencies are broadly similar to those of the DBS. MRC staff delivering training in Scotland or Northern Ireland do not automatically need to have a Disclosure Scotland or AccessNI check, as they will already have a DBS check in place. They do need to follow local safeguarding guidelines: see bullet point immediately below.

- **Procedures when working in a Local Authority:**

When MRC staff are working in a Local Authority, they will use the procedure of the Local Safeguarding Children Board (or other relevant body) for that Authority. They will do this by being aware of the designated Child Protection Officer (DCPO) or equivalent, reporting any concerns promptly and following the prescribed local procedures.

- Procedures when delivering centrally-based training:**
 These training courses typically have delegates from a range of Local Authority (LA) and private organisations. If the MRC trainer has safeguarding concerns, they must contact the DCPO or manager of the delegate who is involved, and follow the procedures for that organisation.
- Disclosure and Barring Service Checks for MRC personnel:**
 All MRC trustees will have a DBS check at the basic level. All MRC trainers will have a DBS check at the Enhanced level for working with children. This check will be made on appointment, and either registered with the update service or renewed every 3 years.
- Disclosure and Barring Service Checks for delegates to courses:**
 All delegates to MRC training courses must have a DBS check at the Enhanced level for working with children. Where delegates are employed by a school or LA, they will normally already have this check in place and it will be sufficient for the MRC trainers to check with the school or LA that this is the case.
- Internal reporting of Safeguarding issues:**
 There will be a designated MRC trustee to whom all safeguarding issues should be reported, in addition to following procedures as above. Currently that trustee is **Ruth Willey**. That trustee will support the MRC member who has reported the issue, in order to ensure that they follow correct procedures and have any personal support which is needed.
- External reporting of Safeguarding issues:**
 The designated trustee, or any other trustee who is involved, is obliged to report any serious Safeguarding incidents to the Charity Commission.
- Safeguarding of MRC Staff & Trustees:**
 Arrangements for delivering training courses or otherwise carrying out MRC business must take into account the personal safety of the MRC staff who are involved.
 In carrying out MRC business, the staff and trustees of the MRC must foster respectful and appropriate relationships amongst themselves. Any concerns about this should be referred to a nominated MRC trustee. At present, this trustee is Charlotte Madine, **the Chair of Trustees**.
- Filming or recording of children:**
 The MRC does make recordings of children and teaching staff, for use in training courses. The MRC has a Filming Policy, which is renewed annually, and which covers issues relevant to the safeguarding of children.

Review of this Policy

This policy will be reviewed annually by the Trustees at the AGM. It will be publicly available on the MRC website.

Date of last review of Safeguarding Policy 17.06.24

Signature of Chair of Trustees... *Charlotte Madine* Date.....17.06.2024