

Incyte International



Excellence in Safeguarding Award (ESA)

An in-depth audit that will give you the confidence that your provision is accurately evaluated and has an action plan to take it forwards.

Who is it for?

- any organisation that is responsible for children, young people, students or vulnerable adults who
- any nursery, primary, secondary, tertiary school/academy/college
- facilities management companies

How long is it current?

- 2 years with an option for a yearly light touch visit to upgrade from Gold to Platinum or to confirm continued excellence

Benefits

- a visit to your place of work where all key workers and a representation of stakeholders will meet with the auditor
- analysis of the institution's web site and an evaluation of how it presents itself, and the information it provides about its safeguarding provision
- informative and informed discussions during the on-site visit with an expert auditor who will provide advice, make suggestions, share best practice garnered from their professional experiences
- a report is generated from the visit which highlights the best practice and identifies action points for improvement
- the body or institution is able to use the Excellence in Safeguarding Logo
- access to newsletters and updates
- access to our safeguarding experts' advice

What makes this award stand out from other awards?

- there is a high focus on the application and impact of policies on the ground
- we recognise innovative and creative practice that really makes a difference to learners with SEND
- we put children and young people at the heart of our award by ensuring that they are educated well especially their critical thinking skills, so they know about risks and how to manage them effectively
- we focus on the culture that leaders create to keep young people safe
- we do not expect institutions to collect a wide range of evidence to present to the panel prior to the audit. We work with what you already do, day in day out.
- we focus on the culture that leaders create to make sure learners are fully involved and included in the organisation's works and receive all the support they require.
- we look to see how well the institution collaborates with key partners such as social services and uses their expertise to gain the best provision for their learners.



The Awards

The Platinum Award

To gain The Platinum Award, the organisation will need to gain Grade 1 of the 3 grades in each of the categories and demonstrate innovative practice that goes above and beyond that which is found normally. They will need to demonstrate that this work makes a positive difference to the people in their care.

The Gold Award

To gain The Gold Award, the body or institution must meet all the most important safeguarding criteria with only a few minor aspects that need to be addressed.

In order to gain either awards the school, body or institution will need to demonstrate

- that all policies meet statutory expectations or guidelines
- that they have a website that openly demonstrates their commitment to safeguarding
- the effectiveness of staff training in all things related to safeguarding particularly in terms of lines of communication
- the impact of the designated safeguarding lead, the decisions they make, the quality of the decisions that they and their team make and the quality of safeguarding practice
- the effectiveness of their links with multi-agencies if they exist
- the effectiveness of governance and their commitment to safeguarding
- evidence of how effectively the child/young persons' protection files are maintained and the actions that result in the care provided
- evidence of the training and its effectiveness that is provided to support young people most at risk of harm or looked after children
- how behaviour is managed and the effectiveness of a policy and how records are monitored and analysed
- the effectiveness of an antibullying policy and how records are monitored and analysed
- the children/young peoples' perception of how adults protect and care for them
- how well the body/institution protects and makes all stakeholders aware of how to stay safe online and the signs to recognise that another person maybe vulnerable to inappropriate messaging
- the effectiveness of a personal, social, health and economic programme, especially in enabling young people to develop the critical thinking skills to help them stay safe
- how well the equal opportunities act is promoted particularly in terms of respect for those with protected characteristics
- that all risk assessments are carried out and how well these are checked out and adhered to
- that the health and safety policy ensures that all stakeholders are kept safe. That the school practises procedures such as evacuation and fire drills and that the building is kept in good order
- that a comprehensive first aid policy is implemented correctly

- that admission registers, where appropriate, are properly maintained
- that the site is secure
- that all recruitment procedures meet requirements
- that there is a strong awareness of Prevent and Channel
- that staff and young people are supported effectively if there are mental health issues
- given the Covid-19 lockdown, how strategically the institution is thinking about safeguarding concerning home learning, partly in the event of another lockdown, but also in terms of how it might build on distance learning practice that worked to re-shape homework (includes consideration of IT resources and access). How it builds on all stakeholders' understanding of online safety.

The visit and scrutiny of policies will test out

- the extent to which leaders, governors and managers create a **positive culture and ethos** where safeguarding is an important part of everyday life in the setting, backed up by training at every level
- the content **application and effectiveness of safeguarding policies** and safe recruitment and vetting processes
- the **quality of safeguarding practice**, including evidence that staff are aware of the signs that children or learners may be at risk of harm either within the setting or in the family or wider community outside the setting
- the **timeliness** of response to any safeguarding concerns that are raised
- the **quality of work to support multi-agency plans** around the child or learner.

Scoring

3	Needs urgent action. Not meeting requirements
2	Mostly meets requirements but still some significant recommendations
1	High standard with possibly only one or two recommendations. Evidence of innovative and creative practice

The framework will be updated annually to reflect any changes in guidance.

