

## **IMS Safeguarding Policy**

## Rationale:

This policy aims to provide support to new and existing teachers, with regards to interaction with young people in the schools, colleges and private settings. <u>All IMS teachers must sign an agreement</u> to observe these requirements during the course of their work.

## Managers and teachers should:

- treat all children and young people with respect, regardless of their gender, age, class, religion, ethnicity, disability or sexual orientation.
- avoid unobserved one-to-one contact with a child or young person when such a situation is unavoidable, ensure that they are within sight or hearing of others who are aware of the situation.
- If a teaching room has no window, then a door will be left open or a chaperone used. In a private home situation a parent must be nearby with full knowledge of the lesson being given.
- challenge inappropriate behaviour and encourage young people and adults to feel comfortable enough to confront attitudes or behaviour they do not like.
- avoid situations that compromise their relationship with young people taking into account that someone else might misinterpret their actions, no matter how well intentioned.
- recognise that caution is required if a pupil is emotionally sensitive or distressed for any reason.
- avoid physical contact whenever possible. Not engage in any inappropriate physical or verbal contact or make any suggestive remarks or gestures, even in fun. Avoid showing favouritism to any individual.
- not take or use photographs of children without written consent from the parents/guardian. Not let suspicion, disclosure or allegations of abuse to go unreported.
- not disclose any personal contact details of any sort to children. This includes telephone numbers, addresses, e-mail addresses or similar.