



Defence  
Children  
Services

# The SAFE Team





# Defence Children Services

**The Defence Children Services (DCS) provide professional direction, support and advice in order to ensure that Service children and young people are provided with every opportunity to achieve the best possible outcomes and fulfil their potential.**

DCS seek to ensure that Service children and young people receive their full entitlement to statutory services, support and suffer no disadvantage because of their parent's Service status; this is the underpinning principle of the Armed Forces Covenant.

The aim is to provide support which is proactive and preventative as being responsive to emerging needs.

# Who are we?

The SAFE Team provide safeguarding subject matter expertise, advice and guidance to DCS Schools and Settings and Overseas Commands on all matters relating to safeguarding delivery; including safeguarding in education, regulated activity recruitment, early help and other below social work threshold concerns.

We support our DCS Schools and Settings to ensure that effective safeguarding policy and processes are in place to allow them to discharge their statutory duties to safeguard children and young people, replicating where practicably possible the requirements laid out in Keeping Children Safe in Education and Working Together to Safeguard Children.

We act as Allegations Manager in role of the DADO (Defence Allegations Designated Officer) Service alongside the Social Work and Welfare Team Leader where allegations of a person in position of trust against a child or young person has been made.

# How can we help?

Our Safeguarding Administrator provides a key role, providing all aspects of confidential business and administrative support to the DCS

Safeguarding Team and Defence Allegation Designated Officer Service.

The DCS Safeguarding Team Lead is the strategic lead for safeguarding and provides a comprehensive safeguarding service. This includes the provision of support, advice and guidance in relation to safeguarding and the development and implementation of quality assurance processes.

The DCS Designated Safeguarding Lead is the first point of contact for all DSL's (Designated Safeguarding Lead) of the 22 Schools and Settings across the world, providing subject matter expertise on matters relating to safeguarding in education.

Our Safer Recruitment Officer provides advice, guidance and assurance in relation to all aspects of safer recruitment including checks, disclosures and risk assessments. Training is also available to enable managers and recruiters to safely employ individuals to work with children and young people.

The DCS Nursing, Health and Wellbeing Advisor is a qualified and experienced nurse, specialising in public health and young people and provides health guidance and subject matter expertise to DCS schools and consultative health advice for pupils in areas where access to school nurses is limited.



## Key Facts

- Early help can reduce the need for a referral to child protection services and improve children's long-term outcomes.
- Everyone has a role to play in identifying concerns, sharing information and taking prompt action.
- Effective record keeping is essential to building a bigger picture and keeping children safe.
- Multi-agency and partnership working is key to effective safeguarding and child protection.

# Useful Contacts and Policies

Email: [RC-DCS-HQ-Safe@mod.gov.uk](mailto:RC-DCS-HQ-Safe@mod.gov.uk)

- JSP 834: Safeguarding
- JSP 913: Whole Service Domestic Abuse
- JSP 770: Tri-service Welfare Policy
- JSP 342: Education of service children
- DIN01-134: Elective Home Education
- Children's Act 1989
- Education Act 2002
- Keeping Children Safe in Education 2023
- Working Together to Safeguard Children 2018