

## North East Uni Connect Programme and North East Raising Aspiration Partnership Safeguarding Statement

### What is the North East Uni Connect Programme?

The North East Uni Connect Programme (NEUCP) is a regional collaboration of the universities and colleges in the North East, working together to support young people in the region to consider higher education as an option for them. The Partnership is working together to deliver a targeted programme of information and support relating to higher education options in the region and to support attainment raising. This activity is part of the National Uni Connect Programme funded by the Office for Students (OfS).

### What is the North East Raising Aspiration Partnership?

The North East Raising Aspiration Partnership (NERAP) is a regional collaboration of the five universities in the North East of England. The Partnership's vision is to improve higher education progression in the region and to ensure that young people in the North East are fully supported to make informed decisions about their future. The Partnership delivers a progressive programme of activities for care-experienced young people and young carers and represents the five universities in both primary and secondary schools and at regional events through a joint representation visit programme.

### Purpose of Document

The NEUCP and NERAP deliver a variety of events and activities to young people under the age of 18 in-school, at a university or college campus and at external locations. Staff involved in delivery are employed in a number of institutions across the Partnerships. The Partnerships may also employ student workers and, from time to time, may contract external organisations to deliver activities on its behalf, during which they too will have contact with young people. This document therefore seeks to provide clarity for all involved on the appropriate procedures relating to child safeguarding, in particular where joint working occurs. For the purposes of this document the term 'staff' refers to employees of NEUCP and NERAP, student workers and externally contracted organisations working on behalf of NEUCP/NERAP.

The information outlined within this statement is based on the Department for Education's statutory guidance, [Keeping Children Safe in Education](#) and [Working Together to Safeguard Children](#) and is therefore within the requirements of HM OFSTED Inspections and ensures the Partnership are following processes appropriate for schools and multi-academy trusts in the region.

### Principles

The safety and welfare of young people is a primary concern of NEUCP and NERAP. It is committed to ensuring that all students enjoy the best possible experience during outreach activities in a safe and secure environment. The Partnerships also wish to provide reassurance for staff by ensuring that appropriate systems are in place to support them in working with young people.

### Statement

The universities and colleges in the North East that form NEUCP and NERAP each have their own institutions' policies and procedures in place relating to safeguarding as is their legal duty. This document is not intended to replace those policies. All staff are advised to familiarise themselves with, and to adhere to, their own institution's policy and procedures in all aspects of working with young people in the course of their NEUCP/NERAP role. They should identify the contact details for their designated point of contact should a disclosure or cause for concern arise. Further clarification is included at Appendix 1.

### Disclosure Barring Service (DBS)

All staff employed to work on behalf of NEUCP and NERAP will be subject to DBS checks via their employing institution as part of their contract of employment and will be recruited following safer recruitment practices. Staff are also responsible for informing their employer if there is any change in their circumstances which may affect their clearance. Student staff who participate in delivery of the programme are required to adhere to the code of conduct set by their employing institution or for the event/activity at which they are working.

### Training

All staff employed to work on behalf of NEUCP and NERAP will receive appropriate safeguarding awareness training as outlined in their employing institution's safeguarding policy.

### Designated Safeguarding Leads (DSLs)

Key personnel in the NEUCP/NERAP Team are appointed DSLs to act as lead persons responsible for providing advice on safeguarding matters, and handling and processing any disclosure or cause for concern brought to the attention of the NEUCP/NERAP Team as a matter of urgency. DSLs will receive appropriate safeguarding training commensurate for the role. Availability of DSLs should be fully considered when planning events/activities.

### Where to go for Advice Following a Safeguarding Incident

In the case of a concern being raised, staff working on outreach activity should follow the process outlined in Appendix 1 which details who to contact for advice and support. Contact details for key personnel/agencies is included in Appendix 2. In the case for a concern being raised out of normal office hours, further contacts and sources of support are provided in Appendix 3.

### Safeguarding Online

Safeguarding and the protection of young people remains a priority for NEUCP and NERAP regardless of the delivery medium implemented. Alternative provision has been developed with consideration of the safety and welfare of all users, including ensuring accessibility and security measures for any online provision. In the event that a safeguarding disclosure or cause for concern is raised, the person(s) should contact the DSLs identified in Appendix 2.

### Allegations or Concerns of Inappropriate Behaviour Involving Staff or Student Tutors/Workers

Allegations or concerns involving a member of staff or student tutor/worker should be reported following the employing institution's human resource and safeguarding policies, with advice taken from the Local Authority Designated Officer and, where appropriate, inform the NEUCP Head of Programme Delivery and NERAP Senior Project Manager.

### Control and Review

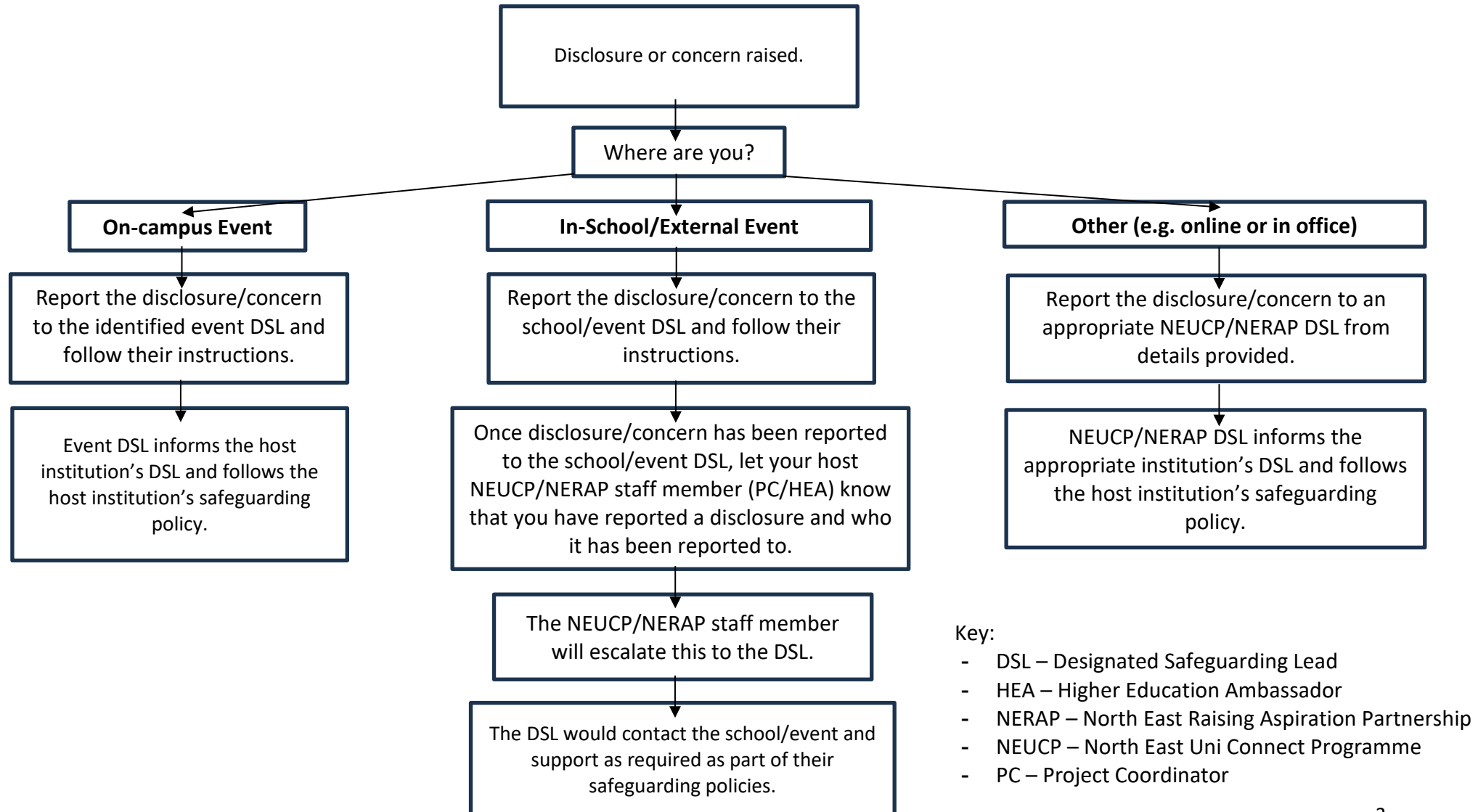
This statement has been agreed by the NEUCP/NERAP University Leads Group. The Group will be responsible for ensuring it is reviewed in response to any legal or other developments in this area and that staff are informed of any changes. It will also be reviewed annually to ensure that the policy still fits within the organisation of the NEUCP and NERAP.

### Publication

A copy of this Safeguarding Statement will be made available on the NEUCP/NERAP websites at [www.outreachnortheast.ac.uk](http://www.outreachnortheast.ac.uk) and [www.nerap.ac.uk](http://www.nerap.ac.uk).

**NEUCP/NERAP Outreach Delivery**

For NEUCP/NERAP staff and Student Tutors/Workers working on the outreach activity in schools, schools with sixth forms and other educational settings, the following flowchart provides further clarity on who to inform in the event of a disclosure or if a cause for concern is raised about a learner or member of staff/student worker.



## Appendix 2

### NEUCP/NERAP Designated Safeguarding Lead Contact Details

| Name            | Position                           | Email Address                                                                  |
|-----------------|------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Tanya Harrison  | NEUCP Head of Programme Delivery   | <a href="mailto:tanya.harrison@tees.ac.uk">tanya.harrison@tees.ac.uk</a>       |
| Lucy McMahon    | NEUCP Project Manager (Operations) | <a href="mailto:lucy.mcmahon@newcastle.ac.uk">lucy.mcmahon@newcastle.ac.uk</a> |
| Louise Harrison | NERAP Senior Project Manager       | <a href="mailto:louise.harrison@ncl.ac.uk">louise.harrison@ncl.ac.uk</a>       |
| Rachel Morrison | NEUCP Outreach Delivery Manager    | <a href="mailto:r.morrison@tees.ac.uk">r.morrison@tees.ac.uk</a>               |
| Sasha Quigg     | NEUCP Outreach Delivery Manager    | <a href="mailto:sasha.quigg@newcastle.ac.uk">sasha.quigg@newcastle.ac.uk</a>   |
| Emily Higgins   | NEUCP Project Coordinator          | <a href="mailto:e.higgins@tees.ac.uk">e.higgins@tees.ac.uk</a>                 |
| Lucy Busfield   | NEUCP Project Coordinator          | <a href="mailto:l.busfield@tees.ac.uk">l.busfield@tees.ac.uk</a>               |

## Appendix 3

### Details of where to find further support

| Name                       | Position                 | Tel No        | Email Address                                                                          |
|----------------------------|--------------------------|---------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>University Contacts</b> |                          |               |                                                                                        |
| Rik Coldwell               | Durham University        |               | <a href="mailto:richard.coldwell@durham.ac.uk">richard.coldwell@durham.ac.uk</a>       |
| Jack Chamberlain           | Newcastle University     | 0191 208 5527 | <a href="mailto:Jack.Chamberlain@newcastle.ac.uk">Jack.Chamberlain@newcastle.ac.uk</a> |
| Laura Jobling              | Northumbria University   | 07535666439   | <a href="mailto:l.jobling@northumbria.ac.uk">l.jobling@northumbria.ac.uk</a>           |
| Katharine Reed             | University of Sunderland | 0191 515 2865 | <a href="mailto:katharine.reed@sunderland.ac.uk">katharine.reed@sunderland.ac.uk</a>   |
| Amy Newton                 | Teesside University      | 01642 738416  | <a href="mailto:a.newton@tees.ac.uk">a.newton@tees.ac.uk</a>                           |
| <b>Other Contacts</b>      |                          |               |                                                                                        |
|                            | NSPCC Helpline           | 0808 800 5000 |                                                                                        |

### Local Authority Contacts including Out of Hours Support

| Area                 | Team                                                                           | Tel No                   |
|----------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Durham               | First Contact                                                                  | 03000 267 979 (option 3) |
|                      | Local Authority Designated Officer                                             | 03000 268 835            |
| Darlington           | Children's Initial Advice Team                                                 | 01325 406 252            |
|                      | Out of Hours Emergency Duty Team                                               | 01642 524 552            |
| Gateshead            | Children's Services (Weekdays 8.30am – 5.00pm weekdays)                        | 0191 433 2653            |
|                      | Emergency Duty Team (Out of Hours)                                             | 0191 477 0844            |
| Hartlepool           | The Children's Hub                                                             | 01429 284 284            |
|                      | Out of Hours                                                                   | 01642 524 552            |
| Middlesbrough        | Middlesbrough Multi-Agency Children's Hub                                      | 01642 726 004            |
|                      | Out of Hours Contact                                                           | 01642 524 552            |
| North Tyneside       | Front Door (Weekdays 8.30am – 5.00pm and 4.30pm Friday)                        | 0345 2000 109            |
|                      | Emergency Duty Team (Out of Hours)                                             | 0330 333 7475            |
| Northumberland       | 24/7 Onecall telephone                                                         | 01670 536 400            |
|                      | Local Authority Designated Officer                                             | 01670 623 979            |
| Redcar and Cleveland | Redcar and Cleveland Multi-Agency Children's Hub                               | 01642 130 700            |
|                      | Emergency Duty Team (Out of Hours)                                             | 01642 524 552            |
| Stockton             | The Children's Hub                                                             | 01429 284 284            |
|                      | Emergency Duty Team                                                            | 01642 524 552            |
| South Tyneside       | Children and Families Social Care (Weekdays 8.30am – 5.00pm and 4.30pm Friday) | 0191 424 5010            |
|                      | Out of Hours Service                                                           | 0191 456 2093            |
| Sunderland           | Together for Children (Weekdays 8.30am – 5.00pm and 4.30pm Friday)             | 0191 520 5560            |
|                      | Out of Hours Team                                                              | 0191 520 5552            |
|                      | Local Authority Designated Officer (office hours only)                         | 0191 561 3901            |