



Policy Review Record

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The Melton Learning Hub Tutor code of Conduct Policy

INTRODUCTION

This Code of Conduct is intended as a guide and a help to all Melton Learning Hub Staff . It sets out standards of conduct which staff are expected to follow when within, or representing the School. This code is not exhaustive but is written to assist staff and it is important that staff should take advice and guidance if necessary. The Melton Learning Hub understand the importance of British Values and staff are expected to conduct themselves accordingly at all times. The Melton Learning

Hub celebrates diversity, promotes tolerance, individual liberty, the rule of law and the importance of our democracy.

The underlying purpose is to ensure that the Melton Learning Hub provides a high quality service to its pupils and stakeholders in accordance with our Mission Statement and to promote public confidence in the integrity of the charity. It takes in the requirements of the law and attempts to define the required levels of professionalism to ensure the well-being of the charity, its staff and its customers. It has been drafted to comply with the Melton Learning Hub Handbook, Policies and Procedures.

- Staff are requested to read this Code carefully and consider the issues which it raises.
- The Manager should also ensure that all staff are aware of the Code's contents and are fully briefed on its implications.
- Reference to this Code will be made in all contacts of employment, and copies will be given to all staff. In addition, the induction programme for all new staff will reinforce the principles of this Code.
- Investigations of alleged breaches of this Code will be covered under the Staff Handbook and could form misconduct or gross misconduct. Staff also need to familiarise themselves with the Low Level Concerns policy in conjunction with this code.

CODE OF CONDUCT

Staff's off-duty hours are their personal concern, but they should avoid a position where duty and private interests conflict. This includes:

- Staff members making online associations/friendships with current pupils via social networking sites such as Facebook,
- Staff members using texting/email facilities on either their mobile phone or PC/Mac to communicate with current pupils.

The Melton Learning Hub does not seek to preclude staff unreasonably from undertaking additional employment, but Staff are required to devote their full time, attention and abilities to their duties during working hours and to act in the best interests of the charity at all times.

Accordingly, they must not, without the written consent of the Manager, undertake any employment or engagement which might interfere with the performance of their duties or conflict with the interests of the charity. It follows that, regardless of whether you are employed on a full-time or fractional contract, you are required to notify the Manager of any employment or engagement which you intend to undertake whilst in the employment of the Melton Learning Hub. (Including any such employment or engagement which commenced before employment began with the Melton Learning Hub)

SPECIFIC ASPECTS

Discrimination: Staff must at all times observe the Melton Learning Hubs Equal Opportunities Policies for staff and pupils and treat pupils, parents and other stakeholders in accordance with those policies.

Health and Safety: Staff must take care of their personal hygiene, safety and welfare, and that of other persons who may be affected by their acts or omissions. All staff must comply with the requirements of the Melton Learning Hub Health and Safety policy and relevant legislation and regulations, and also ensure that pupils do likewise.

Fire: Staff must familiarise themselves with the fire precautions, procedures and drill routines. They must regard practice fire drills or building evacuations in a positive manner, and ensure they are perceived by pupils as an essential precaution to prevent risk of injury or fatality.

Business Practice: Staff must maintain an impeccable standard of integrity in all their professional relationships.

Media: Other than on matters of publicity, only the Manager is authorised to speak or send any communication on behalf of the Melton Learning Hub to members of the press or broadcast media. This decision is to avoid any embarrassment or unfair pressure on staff. This authorisation may be extended by the Manager to other staff members.

Copyright: Staff shall observe copyright laws on computer software, audio-visual and printed material.

Data Protection Act: It is the responsibility of all employees to ensure the Melton Learning Hubs compliance with the Data Protection Act. Personal data must only be used to assist you to carry out your work; it must not be given to people who have no right to see it. All staff should maintain the security of all computerised databases of information on individuals, whether they are staff, pupils or members of the general public. Staff should refer any queries to the Manager.

GENERAL POINTS

- Staff should display the highest possible standards of professional behaviour that is required in an educational establishment (see also Appendix 1 and Appendix 2)
- Staff should seek to co-operate with their colleagues, providing support, help and guidance as required by them and their line manager, and enable effective communication throughout the charity.
- Staff should not use their position in the charity for private advantage or gain.
- Staff should avoid words and deeds that might bring the charity into disrepute or might undermine colleagues in the perception of others (staff/pupils/parents/community).
- Staff should retain professional independent objectivity and not promote dogma or political bias to others in their working activities.
- Staff should be aware of, and should follow Melton Learning Hub policies systems and procedures. They should normally communicate through the line management structure, and should ensure pupils do likewise.
- Continuing professional development and support shall be provided by the Melton Learning Hub and, where appropriate and agreed, will be based on the objectives of the School Development Plan. Periodically, employees will be required to attend certain training activities.

- Staff must obtain permission from the Manager before taking pupils off the Hub premises and complete the off-site book. .
- Staff must obtain permission from the Manager before arranging for any visitors to come into the school.
- Staff must obtain permission from the Manager before incurring any expenditure on behalf of the charity.
- Staff should attend their place of work punctually in accordance with their conditions of service and at the times agreed with their line manager. Those unable to avoid being late must inform the Manager as soon as they can. Please see the Melton Learning Hubs clocking in policy. If a member of staff is unable to attend their work, they must notify their Line manager before 8am by phone (not text) themselves so that alternative cover arrangements may be made.

ADMINISTRATIVE DUTIES 1. Teaching staff shall inform the member of staff completing the register of who is in attendance for all classes. The attendance register should be completed daily (morning and afternoon).

1-2-1 Working

The Melton learning hub does not routinely offer 1-2-1 sessions working with young people. The Engage project does on occasion work in 1-2-1 situations and therefore this guidance is particularly important to the team.

1-2-1 sessions should be in public places for the young person and the staff members protection.

Any transporting of a young person on a 1-2-1 basis in a Hub vehicle must have the dash cam on and facing inwards.

Managers must be aware of 1-2-1 sessions and the Engage timetable must be updated at all times so that Management know where the team are and who they are working with.

A risk assessment of the young persons background must be done before any 1-2-1

All lessons at the Hub should operate an eyes on approach. Tutors should keep doors open where possible and windows should offer a clear view into each classroom.

If a child's risk assessment indicates any history of allegations they **MUST NOT** work on a 1-2-1 basis . this is for the protection of the young person and the staff member.

Social discussions

We live in a time of immense conflict around the world and varying political views which can be difficult to manage in education settings. Our role is to support healthy discussion accepting some views that are expressed might not be similar to our own. The Hub will encourage a positive and safe place to have discussions. Staff should;

- Take a balanced approach offering both sides of a discussion
- Encourage young people that education is a safe place to talk
- Correct factual inaccuracies of any viewpoint being sure to use reliable verified information.

Staff are aware and should report views that are expressed which meet the PREVENT criteria.

Prevention of Allegations

It is important all relevant information relating to a young person is passed to the Hub at the earliest opportunity. We encourage this information sharing approach with parents as through good communication issues and misinformation can be clarified quickly.

The Melton Learning hub has two sites which are both covered by CCTV, this is being extended during 2024.

We do not routinely offer 1-2-1 teaching sessions

We have strict social media controls at both centres and staff are aware of their responsibilities outside of working hours.

The Melton Learning Hub will routinely ask for a young persons risk assessment before accepting any new placement. This allows us to make sure we can meet need.

Physical Contact with Pupils

- As a general principle, staff are advised not to make unnecessary physical contact with their pupils.
- It is unrealistic and unnecessary, however, to suggest staff should touch pupils only in emergencies. In particular, a distressed child, especially a younger child, may need reassurance involving physical comforting, as a caring parent would provide. Staff should not feel inhibited from providing this.
- Staff should never touch a child who has clearly indicated that he/she is, or would be, uncomfortable with such contact, unless it is necessary to protect the child, others or property from harm.
- Physical punishment is illegal, as is any form of physical response to misbehaviour, unless it is by way of necessary restraint.
- Staff, who have to administer first-aid to a pupil, should ensure wherever possible that this is done in the presence of other children or another adult. However, no member of staff should hesitate to provide first-aid in an emergency simply because another person is not present.
- Any physical contact which would be likely to be misinterpreted by the pupil, parent or other casual observer should be avoided.
- Following any incident where a member of staff feels that his/her actions have been, or may be, misconstrued, a written report of the incident should be submitted immediately to the Designated Safeguarding Lead (Sarah Cox) or Deputy (Lucie Larke).
- Staff should be particularly careful when supervising pupils in a residential setting, or in approved out of centre activities, where more informal relationships tend to be usual and where staff may be in proximity to pupils in circumstances very different from the normal charity/work environment.

APPENDIX 1 PROFESSIONAL BEHAVIOUR

Professional behaviour is a generic term, but within this Code of Conduct includes such aspects as:

- acting in a fair, courteous and mature manner to pupils, colleagues and other stakeholders;
- co-operating and liaising with colleagues, as appropriate, to ensure pupils receive a coherent and comprehensive educational service;
- endeavouring to assist The Melton Learning Hub achieve its whole charity objectives – in particular, by adopting a positive attitude to marketing and the achievement of quality and equality;
- respect for charity property;
- maintaining the image of the Melton Learning Hub through standards of dress, general courtesy, correct use of The Melton Learning Hub logo, etc.;
- taking responsibility for the behaviour and conduct of pupils in the classroom and sharing such responsibility elsewhere on the premises;
- being fit for work (i.e. not adversely influenced by drugs, etc.);
- being familiar with job requirements (e.g. proper preparation, use of suitable methods/systems, maintenance of appropriate/required records, etc.), including keeping up-to-date with developments relevant to the job.
- being familiar with communication channels and The Melton Learning Hubs procedures and policies applicable to both pupils and staff;
- ensuring all assessments/exams/tests are conducted in a fair and proper (prescribed) manner, and that procedures are strictly followed with respect to confidentiality and security;
- respect for the rights and opinions of others. This list is not exhaustive but the examples are given as a summary.
 - Creating a no tolerance environment to peer on peer abuse.

APPENDIX 2 UNPROFESSIONAL BEHAVIOUR

The following are examples of behaviour which The Melton Learning Hub finds unacceptable. The list is not exhaustive and it is acknowledged that it will be necessary to exercise judgement in all cases and to be fair and reasonable in all the circumstances.

- Any form of physical/verbal violence towards pupils.
- Physical violence, actual or threatened towards other staff or visitors to the Melton Learning Hub.
- Frequent use of mobile phone for social purposes throughout the working day.
- Sexual offences, sexual insults or sexual discrimination against pupils, other staff or visitors to the Melton Learning Hub.
- Racial offences, racial insults or racial discrimination against pupils, other staff or visitors to the Melton Learning Hub.
- Theft of monies or property belonging to The Melton Learning Hub and of monies or property of colleagues or visitors to the Melton Learning Hub.
- Removal from Melton Learning Hub premises of property which is not normally taken away without the express authority of the Manager or of the owner of the property may be regarded as gross misconduct.
- Deliberate falsification of documents such as time sheets, bonus sheets, subsistence and expense claims for the purpose of gain.
- Acceptance of bribes or other corrupt financial practices.
- Wilful or wreck less damage of Melton Learning Hub property or of property belonging to other staff or visitors to the Melton Learning Hub.
- Wilful disregard of safety rules or policies affecting the safety of pupils, other staff or visitors to the Melton Learning Hub.
- Any wilful act which could result in actionable negligence for compensation against the Melton Learning Hub.
- Refusal to comply with reasonable instructions given by staff with a supervisory responsibility.
- Gross neglect of duties and responsibilities (see handbook for a list of gross misconduct issues and misconduct issues).
- Unauthorised absence from work.
- Being untruthful and/or engaging in deception in matters of importance within the Melton Learning Hub community.
- Deliberate breaches of confidentiality particularly on sensitive matters.
- Being incapable by reason of alcohol or drugs (not prescribed for a health problem) from fulfilling duties and responsibilities of employment.
- Conduct which substantially brings the name of the School into disrepute or which seriously undermines confidence in the employee.
- Unsatisfactory timekeeping without permission or failure to notify the Manager when absent.
- Neglect of safety rules and procedures.

- Some offences of wilful neglect may be regarded as gross misconduct.
- Breaches of confidentiality. Deliberate breaches on sensitive matters maybe regarded as gross misconduct.
- Failure to comply with reasonable work related requirements or lack of care in fulfilling the duties of the post.
- Behaviour towards other employees, pupils, and visitors which gives justifiable offence. Certain behaviour giving rise to offence may be regarded as gross misconduct.
- Acting in a manner which could reasonably be regarded as rude, impolite, contemptuous or lacking appropriate professional demeanour. In certain circumstances such behaviour may be regarded as gross misconduct.
- Conduct which it is considered adversely affects either the reputation of the Melton Learning Hub or affects confidence in the employee. Certain conduct may be regarded as gross misconduct.
- Failing to take action when witnessing any peer on peer abuse or harassment.

The contents of this policy should be read in conjunction with the staff handbook.

Prepared by Sarah Cox- Manager

July 2024