

North East Collaborative Programme Safeguarding Statement

What is the North East Collaborative Outreach Programme?

The North East Collaborative Outreach Programme (NECOP) 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 Consortium is working together to deliver a targeted programme of information and support relating to higher education options in the region. This activity is part of the National Collaborative Outreach Programme funded by the Office for Students (OfS).

Purpose of Document

The NECOP Consortium delivers a variety of events and activities to young people under the age of 18 in-school, at a university or college campus, off site and online. Staff involved in delivery are employed in a number of institutions across the Consortium. The Consortium 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 the NECOP Consortium, student workers and externally contracted organisations working on behalf of NECOP.

Principles

The safety and welfare of young people is a primary concern of the NECOP Consortium. It is committed to ensuring that all students enjoy the best possible experience of NECOP activities in a safe and secure environment. The Consortium also wishes 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 the NECOP Consortium each have their own institution policy 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 NECOP role. They should identify the contact details for their designated point of contact should a disclosure or cause for concern arise. For staff working as part of the schools strand of the project, further clarification is included at Appendix 1.

Disclosure Barring Service (DBS)

All staff employed to work on behalf of the NECOP Consortium will be subject to DBS checks via their employing institution as part of their contract of employment. Staff are also responsible for informing their employer if there is any change in their circumstances which may affect their clearance.

Training

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

Designated Safeguarding Officers (DSOs)

Key personnel in the NECOP Central Team are appointed DSOs 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 NECOP Central Team as a matter of urgency. DSOs will receive appropriate safeguarding training commensurate for the role. Availability of DSOs should be fully considered when planning events/activities.

Allegations or Concerns of Inappropriate Behaviour Involving Staff or FutureMe Mentors

Allegations or concerns involving a member of staff or FutureMe Mentor and a person under 18 should be reported following the employing institution's human resource and safeguarding policies. The employing institution will determine how the matter should be dealt with and, where appropriate, inform the NECOP Senior Project Manager.

Control and Review

This statement has been agreed by the NECOP 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 NECOP Consortium.

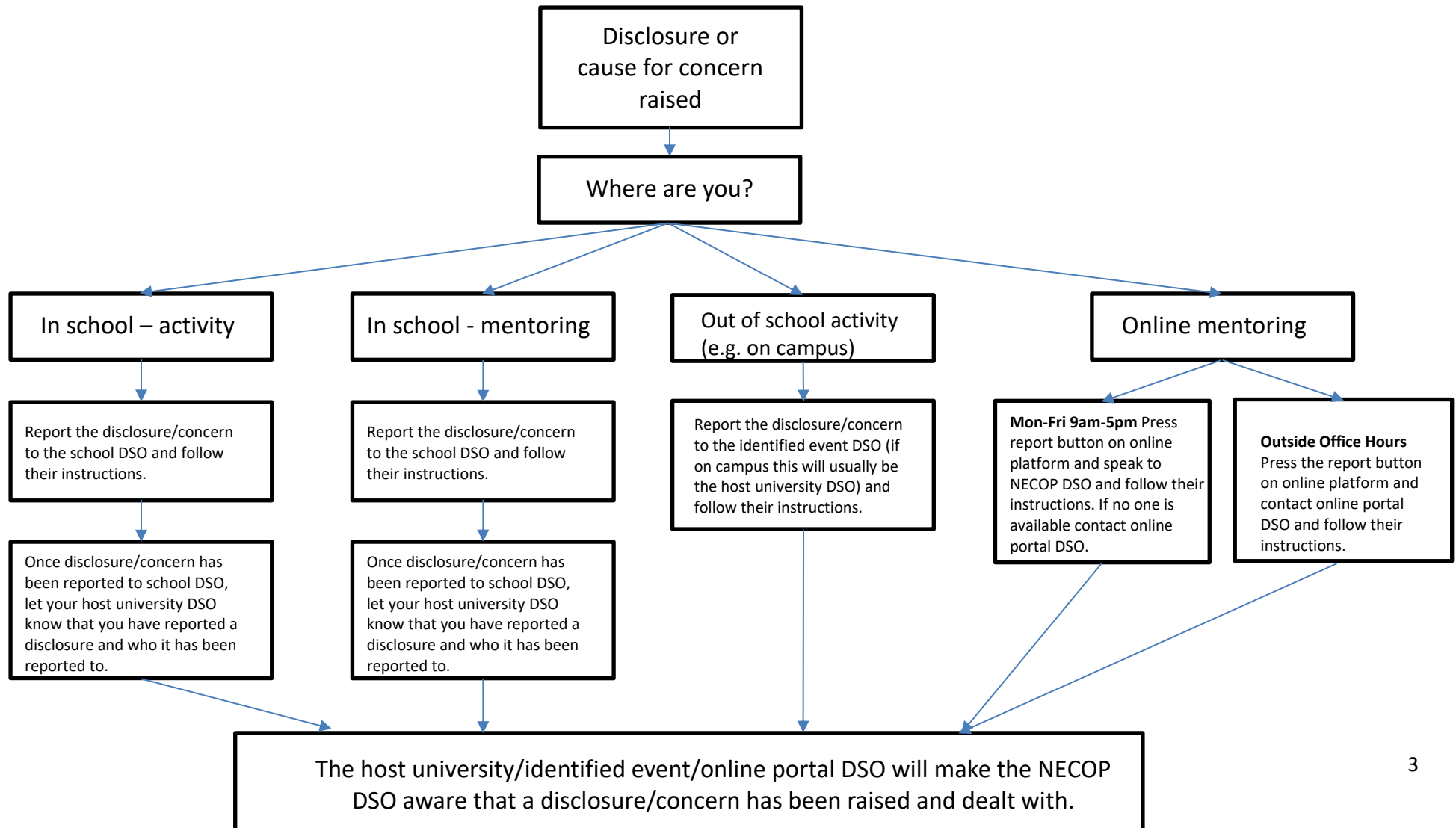
Publication

A copy of this Safeguarding Statement will be made available on the NECOP website at www.futureme.ac.uk.

Appendix 1

NECOP Schools Strand (including Schools with Sixth Forms)

For NECOP staff and FutureMe Mentors working on the schools strand of the programme (including schools with sixth forms) the following flowchart provides further clarity on who to inform in the event of a disclosure or if a cause for concern is raised.



Appendix 2

NECOP Designated Safeguarding Officer Contact Details

Name	Position	Tel No	Email Address
Tanya Harrison	Project Manager (Schools)	01642 738119	tanya.harrison@tees.ac.uk
Rachel Morrison	Senior Project Coordinator (Schools)	01642 342018	r.morrison@tees.ac.uk
Amy O'Brien	Project Manager (Marketing and Engagement)	0191 2083538	amy.o'brien@ncl.ac.uk