What is Safeguarding?

Safeguarding is everyone's business. Safeguarding is about helping students to keep themselves safe and to prevent abuse from taking place. Safeguarding is also about responding to disclosures of alleged and suspected abuse, and putting in place plans to help and protect those who cannot help themselves. Everyone has the right to live their life free from abuse.

Types of Abuse

Physical abuse | Sexual abuse | Emotional abuse | Neglect Exploitation | Financial abuse | Institutional abuse

Safeguarding Officer



Kate Hall khall@belfastmet.ac.uk 02890 265262 | 07436 531780 safeguarding@belfastmet.ac.uk

Safeguarding Officer



Christine Donnelly cdonnelly@belfastmet.ac.uk 02890 265260 | 07976 173081 safeguarding@belfastmet.ac.uk

Safeguarding Officer



Brendan Dineen bdineen@belfastmet.ac.uk 02890 265261 | 07711 854362 safeguarding@belfastmet.ac.uk

Designated Safeguarding Manager/Adult Safeguarding Champion



Nuala Boyle
Head of Student Support
Contact Telephone: 02890 265054
Contact Mobile: 07436 584973

Deputy Designated Safeguarding Manager



Paula Irvine
Centre Manager Student Wellbeing
Contact No: 02890 265108 Ext 3556
Contact Mobile: 07929 823939

If you have a safeguarding concern, please email: safeguarding@belfastmet.ac.uk

Reporting Process for Safeguarding Concerns (Students)



If a student is being abused / has concerns with respect to another student being abused they are encouraged to make a disclosure to any member of the college staff team that they feel comfortable to do so.

That member of staff should then trigger internal safeguarding processes as outlined below.

Safeguarding, care and welfare concern identified in regards to a child, young person, adult at risk of harm or adult in need of protection.

College Staff / Volunteer records the concern(s) on the Safeguarding Referral Form without delay and immediately submits form.

The Safeguarding Team receives the Safeguarding Referral Form. A designated Safeguarding Officer will make contact with the referrer to seek additional information and / or clarity in relation to the reported concern.

The Designated Safeguarding Officer will make contact with the student at this point.

The Designated Safeguarding Officer will determine through assessment if the referral is a safeguarding issue.

YES there is a Safeguarding matter.

There is NO Safeguarding matter.

Referral to Social Services / PSNI by the Designated Safeguarding Officer

Safeguarding Officer/Student Wellbeing Team will continue to support the student as appropriate.

The Safeguarding Team fully appreciates how much courage and bravery it takes to report a safeguarding concern.

Always remember the team will treat you with the utmost care and respect and will support you fully throughout the disclosure process and beyond.