



## **OPA Safeguarding & Child Protection Policy**

The Old Petriburgians' Association (OPA) is the former pupils' association of The King's (The Cathedral) School Peterborough; all former students, as well as former and current staff are automatically members. Its aim is to support the School and promote fellowship within its membership.

Whilst the Association has no direct day-to-day contact with current pupils, or other young people, occasionally Sixth Form students are invited to attend OPA events.

The OPA recognises the responsibility it has under section 157 of the Education Act 2002 to have arrangements in place to safeguard and promote the welfare of children. This responsibility is more fully explained in the statutory guidance 'Keeping Children Safe in Education' (September 2018). All adults working with young children must be made aware of their duties and responsibilities under part one of this document, found in The King's (The Cathedral) School's Safeguarding & Child Protection Policy, located [here](#).

The OPA Committee will act as contact between members and the appropriate agencies. Further, it will provide those members involved in event-planning with advice, support and information regarding abuse, methods of child protection and how to respond to any concerns or incidents. Core information will be derived from The King's (The Cathedral) School Peterborough's Child Protection Policy (found [here](#)). Clarification of any point is available, through the Chairman, from The King's (The Cathedral) School's Designated Safeguarding Lead. Urgent issues or incidents should always be addressed directly to the OPA Chairman (or in their absence a member of The King's (The Cathedral) School staff), who will always hold a valid DBS check, and be trained in line with The King's (The Cathedral) School's Child Protection policy.

As far as is compatible with legal reporting requirements, the OPA will seek to respect confidentiality.

OPA events rarely include young people or other vulnerable individuals, but at any such event, the OPA will ensure appropriate supervision. Young people will be accompanied at the event by an appropriately DBS-checked member of The King's School staff, the OPA Chairman or their parent/carer. OPA members will ensure that all activities, as far as possible, occur in a group setting and that no unauthorised person has unsupervised contact.

In the unlikely case that a planned event would place OPA members in a direct supervisory role, appropriate DBS checks will be obtained prior to that event and all members involved fully informed of their safeguarding responsibilities. It is OPA policy that young people and vulnerable individuals are supervised by a minimum of two or more members.

At all times OPA members are required to respect every individual's rights, safety and welfare, reflecting the vigilant and caring ethos of The King's (The Cathedral) School, Peterborough.

February 2022