

Safeguarding Governance

Briefing for International Schools, 2025

Update from the International Taskforce on Child Protection
February 2025

The International Taskforce on Child Protection calls your attention to the publication of a newly briefing on safeguarding governance within international school communities. This guidance and the accompanying resources have been created and reviewed through the collaboration of dedicated Taskforce volunteers over the past two years.

The [International Taskforce on Child Protection \(ITFCP\) Safeguarding Governance Briefing](#) includes guidance on:

- Governance structures in international schools
- Alignment with the ITFCP Expectations for School Communities 2021
- Providing strategic oversight of safeguarding
- School safeguarding statement
- Appointing a Designated Safeguarding Board Member
- Supporting the development of a safeguarding culture
- Legal responsibilities, obligations and cultural expectations
- The Board's role in overseeing the management of a critical incident

The Briefing is accompanied by a [Resource Pack](#) designed to support schools to implement the guidance in the briefing. These resources include

- Safeguarding governance audit
- Code of conduct checklist
- Example role profile Designated Safeguarding Board Member
- Board/Owner safeguarding training checklist
- Safeguarding governance training slide pack
- Policy review checklist

The [2025 Briefing](#) is based on the following principles and the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC):

- ✓ All children have equal rights to be protected from harm and abuse.
- ✓ Everyone has a responsibility to support the protection of children.
- ✓ All schools have a responsibility to build a community that values diversity, equity, and inclusion for each child.
- ✓ All schools have a duty of care to children enrolled in the school and those who are affected by the operations of the school.
- ✓ All actions on child protection are taken with the best interests of the child, which are paramount.

This report and other Taskforce guidance are published at the [International Centre for Missing & Exploited Children \(ICMEC\) Education Portal](#).

On behalf of the Taskforce Founding Members, and in your service,

Jane Larsson, Chair
International Taskforce on Child Protection

Founding Members of the Taskforce:

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-  Colin Bell, Executive Director, Council of British International Schools
-  Tim Stuart, Regional Education Officer, U.S. Department of State, Office of Overseas Schools
-  Kam Chohan, Executive Director, ECIS the Educational Collaborative for Schools
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