

The Leaders in Safeguarding Award



**The Independent Standard for
Excellence in Safeguarding**

RAISING STANDARDS IN SAFEGUARDING

About Leaders in Safeguarding

Leaders in Safeguarding was established by Dr Dan Grant, drawing on decades of experience in social work, inspection, and safeguarding leadership. Over the years, we have become a trusted national resource for safeguarding audits, training, and accreditation – working with schools, colleges, health providers, charities, and businesses across the UK.

Safeguarding is central to:

- Government guidance – including Keeping Children Safe in Education (DfE), Working Together to Safeguard Children, and the Statutory Framework for the Early Years Foundation Stage.
- Inspection frameworks – such as Ofsted’s Education Inspection Framework and the Care Quality Commission’s safeguarding standards.
- Safeguarding law – including the Children Act 1989 and 2004, Education Act 2002, and the Working Together regulations under the Children and Social Work Act 2017.

The Leaders in Safeguarding Award provides a rigorous, independent audit of your organisation’s safeguarding practice. It enables you to evidence excellence, meet statutory requirements, and demonstrate a clear commitment to protecting those in your care.

WHAT IS THE SAFEGUARDING AWARD?

The Leaders in Safeguarding Award is a recognised accreditation that provides an independent audit of an organisation's safeguarding practice.

It is designed to:

- Assess how effectively an organisation protects children, young people, and vulnerable adults.
- Benchmark practice against national statutory requirements, inspection frameworks, and best practice guidance.
- Offer a 16-standard framework and detailed policy checks (covering issues like safer recruitment, training, online safety, governance, and safeguarding culture).
- Provide a clear, external validation that safeguarding responsibilities are being met at the highest level.

**This is not a tick-box exercise.
Only organisations that evidence sustained
excellence receive the Award.**

The Process

HOW IT WORKS

THE SAFEGUARDING AWARD PROCESS IS CLEAR, THOROUGH, AND SUPPORTIVE.

- **Step 1 – Preparation**
- **Step 2 – Audit**
- **Step 3 – Report**
- **Step 4 – Validation Panel**
- **Step 5 – Award Granted**

The Leaders in Safeguarding Award Process



The Standards Framework

The Leaders in Safeguarding Standard requires:

1. **Clear lines of accountability for safeguarding children and adults at risk**
2. **Committed governance and effective safeguarding quality assurance processes**
3. **Full compliance with all relevant statutory requirements and guidance**
4. **Comprehensive, clear and effective safeguarding policies, procedures and systems**
5. **Accessible and effective whistleblowing arrangements**
6. **Effective and appropriate information sharing**
7. **Highly effective inter-agency working**
8. **Highly effective supervision and support**
9. **High priority is given to safeguarding the most vulnerable groups**
10. **Precise recording of information and concerns**
11. **Thorough and effective risk assessment and risk management arrangements**
12. **Effective safer recruitment practices**
13. **Highly effective staff training and continuing professional development**
14. **Staff awareness of safeguarding arrangements and day to day practice are good**
15. **Full and effective implementation of the 'Prevent' duty**
16. **Staff and service users feel safe and supported and receive appropriate information to help keep themselves and each other safe**

Why Work Towards the Award?

Achieving the Leaders in Safeguarding Award is more than compliance, it is recognition of a deep, organisation-wide commitment to safeguarding children, young people, and vulnerable adults.

- **External recognition** – A registered Quality Mark that demonstrates your safeguarding arrangements have been independently verified.
- **Enhanced reputation** – Public listing on the Leaders in Safeguarding Register and entitlement to use the logo to show credibility to inspectors, partners, and service users.
- **Robust standards** – Assessment against 16 safeguarding standards covering governance, safer recruitment, training, inter-agency work, and culture.
- **Expert scrutiny** – Rigorous audit and validation by experienced safeguarding professionals, with constructive feedback and recommendations.
- **Continuous improvement** – The two-year award cycle encourages sustained review, not just a one-off compliance exercise.
- **Practical support** – DSL helpline, free NADSL membership, and resources to stay up to date with safeguarding developments.
- **Cultural impact** – Helps embed safeguarding awareness and accountability across leadership, staff, and service users.

**Start your journey towards the Safeguarding Award today
and contact us on**



admin@leadersinsafeguarding.com



www.leadersinsafeguarding.com