

Actions taken by All Saints Catholic High School and St Clare Catholic Multi Academy Trust

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Background

This document provides a summary of some of the key actions that have been taken by the school and Trust following the tragic death of Harvey Willgoose in February 2025. Harvey's death was a profound tragedy and his loss is remembered every day by our community. Our thoughts and deepest sympathies remain with Harvey's family.

The Trust has commissioned a number of external reports to identify learning and strengthen safeguarding arrangements. These reports include the Shaw Report and a safeguarding audit of the school. These reports, together with a recent Ofsted inspection and this summary document, are now available on the Trust website.

The school and Trust have implemented every single one of the recommendations outlined in the Shaw Report. A recent safeguarding audit of All Saints found that substantial progress had been made over the course of the last year and a half and that safeguarding at the school was effective.

This audit has since been followed by an Ofsted inspection of the school which found safeguarding to be effective and recognised the actions the school and trust have taken to learn from Harvey's tragic death.

The Trust Board will continue to collaborate with the Department for Education and other key partners over the coming months to make sure that the changes made are having a positive effect and to continue to use all that we have learned to strengthen safeguarding in all of the schools in the Trust. From the outset, we have proactively engaged with the statutory safeguarding agencies and will continue to do so with a clear focus on providing the best possible environment for students.

Actions Taken

1. In the immediate days after Harvey's death the school and Trust worked closely with South Yorkshire Police; expert agencies such as the Sheffield Educational Psychologist Team, the Department for Education, the National Homicide Support Service and the Sheffield City Safeguarding Partnership; and specialist charities and organisations such as Unravel, Positive Regard, Oasis Community Learning Trust and the Sheffield Parenting Hub. Our actions have been guided by these bodies and our insights from the daily work we have carried out with our students to ensure the support they have been provided is tailored to their needs.

2. We have implemented a number of additional security measures since Harvey's death, including the introduction of handheld metal detectors (also known as 'wands') to be used by trained staff members should they suspect a student of carrying any banned objects on their person. Refresher staff training sessions on safe student restraint with our partner Positive Regard have been delivered. Additionally, a bleed kit has been installed at the school courtesy of a generous donation from a charity connected to Harvey.

3. We invested in a software mechanism, called 'Whisper', which is an email and text communication tool where students, parents or staff can report any concerns they may have in an anonymised way. These messages are monitored by designated staff who respond to each message and, where required, alert appropriate colleagues and relevant external bodies for required action and/or investigation.

4. We continue to work closely with South Yorkshire Police. We implemented a monthly drop-in session led by a member of their team to allow students to share any concerns and learn more about knife crime in a safe space, and to deliver specific student interventions. We are also engaging with their programme of events and sessions on knife crime awareness. Students in Year 7, Year 8 and Year 9 have received a one-hour 'Knives Take Lives' assembly delivered by the South Yorkshire Police Lifewise team. Resources linked to Knife Crime and Violence are also further embedded in the Year 7 – 13 PSHE curriculum.

5. Since the incident we have worked regularly with specialist charities and organisations. The Oasis Community Learning Trust, which operates multi-academy trusts as well as running a number of local community initiatives for young people across the UK, has provided us with invaluable advice and support on student mental health and safety. They provided this

support due to their recent experience following the tragic death of two pupils in relation to knife crime. This support was crucial for helping our pupils deal with the shock and trauma of such an incident.

6. We have also worked extensively with Unravel, a children's psychological support charity. We have hosted an Oasis workshop for parents based on helping them to help their children to process this traumatic incident. Staff have also attended an Unravel training session focused on spotting signs of trauma amongst students and managing student welfare at difficult times like this. Unravel has provided us with materials for tutorial sessions focused on supporting students in response to trauma and materials which have been embedded into the PSHE curriculum.

7. We also brought in an on-site educational psychologist who is an expert in dealing with young people following traumatic incidents, and we have increased counselling sessions on a regular basis which remain available to all students who require support. Chimp Management, a specialist psychological consultancy based in Sheffield, has delivered workshops with specific students, Skills for Life sessions with a group of staff, and a parenting session.

8. We held a Parent Forum in mid-2025 which was well-attended and was a very productive event. We gathered experts from the police and educational psychologist service, and senior leaders from across the school and Trust to provide updates to parents and answer questions on implemented measures. The Sheffield Parenting Hub has provided two bespoke seminars for All Saints parents around teen wellbeing. These sessions will be repeated online later in the year to reach more parents. We feel strongly about keeping an open dialogue with parents as an important part of moving forward as a community, and welcome suggestions for future engagement from our parent body.

9. We also contributed to the Thematic Safeguarding Review which was commissioned by Sheffield Children's Safeguarding Partnership. The report from this review has since been published and it identifies learning and recommendations for a range of different agencies designed to prevent such a tragedy happening again.

10. The Trust commissioned an external report following the incident and this report (the Shaw Report) outlined a number of recommendations for the Trust to take forward.

All the recommendations have been implemented. We outline below the main actions that have been taken:

10 (a). Recommendation: The process for transfers

The school has reviewed the process for transfers and implemented a number of changes including:

- The team of people who review information and inform sign-off has been widened and includes a named key worker for each individual child.
- This team includes the Designated Safeguarding Lead.
- There is a new system in place whereby all the information that is required and the necessary steps that must be in place before sign-off (including sharing of all safeguarding data; decision on whether a safety plan is required to manage any identified risk; and agreement on intervention(s) required) must be completed in advance of the transfer being approved.
- The school has invested in 'CPOMS Engage', an additional module to CPOMS (Child Protection Online Monitoring System), which allows safeguarding records to be available to the school at the point of transfer where two schools are using the same systems.
- We have widened the number of inclusion and pastoral leaders with full access to CPOMS.

10 (b). Recommendation: Recording knife-related events

The school has reviewed the system in place and implemented a number of changes including:

- The student search category on CPOMS has been updated to include sub-categories so as to specifically record and define what searches are in relation to.
- The Inclusion team have been provided training on the most accurate and effective way to record incidents to ensure maximum visibility across relevant senior leaders and that risks can be flagged early and robustly. To ensure continuity and maintain high standards, a refresher training has been embedded every half term.

- The Deputy and Assistant Head have initiated a focused audit of all logs on a weekly basis to check that events have been logged correctly, effectively, and to assess issues with reference to wider patterns and in particular violence.

10 (c). Recommendation: Staff Training on Searching

The school has reviewed staff training around searching, screening and confiscation and implemented a number of changes including:

- The protocols for searching and recording have been updated following advice from Sheffield Children Safeguarding Partnership and refresher training has been provided for staff every half term.
- A new follow-up system has been embedded where in the event of a weapon search, there is a set six-week safety plan that follows this process which involves further randomised searches and intervention measures to reduce risk.

10 (d). Recommendation: Responding to Knife-Related Incidents

The school has reviewed the process for responding to reports of knives or any incident involving knives or alleging knife-involvement and implemented some key measures, including:

- We have instituted a new system where there are regular meetings of senior leaders, safeguarding and pastoral staff solely focused on specific safeguarding matters in relation to violence. Searches are a standing item in these meetings and all in the team must be notified if a search has happened and updated as to what the follow-up process is.
- The actions outlined in Recommendation 5 in the Shaw Report, which focus on an update to search protocols and training, as well as a clear six-week plan for students alleged to be involved in knife-related incidents, also fall under this recommendation and further build on the school's strong response in this area.

10 (e). Recommendation: Referrals to Social Care

The school has reviewed referrals to social care and how follow-ups are made by school staff for particularly complex cases to ensure that the pupil is receiving adequate specialised support from the social care services. The school has implemented a new process which has been agreed with the Local Authority Safeguarding Adviser. This process requires the relevant

school personnel to follow-up on referrals along a two-step process and if no proactive response is received from social care services then the matter is escalated to a senior manager who will ensure the matter is followed up and a response is provided to the school.

11. We have made a number of policy changes and varied improvements across the Trust. For example, with IT now fully centralised, we are developing a Trust-wide Online Safety Policy, drawing on best practice across our schools and national guidance. Other developments include: a new format and training programme for Safeguarding Governors, ensuring consistency and strengthening their contribution to Quality Assurance (QA); a revised Headteacher safeguarding report, bringing all QA strands together more explicitly; implementation of a centralised Single Central Record (SCR) system for greater consistency and Trust-wide visibility; and development of a Trust safeguarding training curriculum, building on induction and Start of Year training and shared resources from the DSL network.

We have also recruited a new Trust Safeguarding Lead who will take post from September 2026. The Safeguarding Lead will provide additional expertise and support for Designated Safeguarding Leads in all Trust schools. She will lead evaluation of all the improvements listed above to make sure they are working well and she will lead continued development of the way we work together to stay ahead of the changing safeguarding needs of children and young people.

These developments align with broader Trust developments including: implementation of a new Trust-wide recruitment management system; and development of a Trust protocol and training for high-quality induction, grounded in best practice from across the Trust.