

**Summary of findings    Safeguarding Visit    College – UHI Shetland**

**To be completed by college HMI/LI/member of the evaluation team**

I have discussed with relevant staff the safeguarding, Child Protection and care experienced returns provided by the college. Based on the evidence provided by the establishment, we have agreed the following with the college:

**Positive practice**

The college has clear and comprehensive safeguarding arrangements which include appropriate reporting and support mechanisms. UHI Shetland adopted the single policy on safeguarding developed by UHI. The Safeguarding Lead was a member of that group.

The Safeguarding Lead liaises well with other local agencies such as police and social work departments.

The Safeguarding Lead delivered a session during the staff development day in January 2022 on safeguarding procedures. Any updates on safeguarding are provided in the weekly staff newsletter. Staff valued the input of external agencies, such as Samaritans and Women's Aid, at recent staff development events and the information and support they provided.

Staff have a good awareness of safeguarding procedures and acknowledge the advice available readily from the Safeguarding Lead. Suitable arrangements are in place to provide alternative support if the Safeguarding Lead is off campus. Staff indicated that there had been no incidents requiring to use safeguarding reporting templates in the recent past.

Staff recognise the value of the "Transitions working group" which works in partnership with other agencies to support more vulnerable learners and provide additional support where needed. This support was viewed as crucial in preventing some issues developing into safeguarding concerns.

The college website made use of a "red and green button" facility which provided a mechanism for students to raise issues, complaints and concerns and offered immediate support, if required. Students understood how the "red and green button" system worked and valued the support available, particularly at times when college staff were not available.

Students were aware of role and importance of student counsellor and services they offer to learners and also appreciated the support from senior management team members.

**Areas for further consideration**

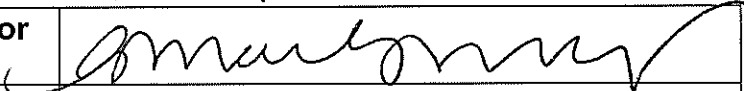
The college should consider its arrangements for safeguarding training for new members of staff to ensure greater consistency in its approach.

Staff would value more regular mandatory updating of safeguarding training to help improve their confidence in dealing with potential issues, such as support for care-experienced learners.

The college should consider how it uses its reporting and recording processes to evaluate and inform future actions and investment.

These issues have been drawn to the attention of appropriate senior staff. Accountability for appropriate action that needs to be taken to address these issues now resides with the senior managers within the college/centre.

GEMMA MACGREGOR

<b>Signature of senior manager or college/centre nominee</b>	
<b>Post held</b>	VICE PRINCIPAL
<b>Date</b>	Click or tap to enter a date. 6/7/22

<b>Signature of College HMI/LI:</b>	John Bowditch
<b>Name</b>	
<b>Date</b>	27/06/2022