

From: Air Commodore Tony Keeling OBE MDA MA BEng CEng FRAeS FIET RAF



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Parents, Guardians and Carers,

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RAF AIR CADETS COMMITMENT TO SAFEGUARDING AND CHILD PROTECTION

With nearly 60,000 cadets and volunteers in squadrons and contingents across the UK, the RAF Air Cadets works hard to safely provide the best opportunities and most inspirational experiences to all, but we must do so with the appropriate safeguards in place. As Commandant I am passionate about the care afforded to our cadets and volunteers, and I take our safeguarding responsibilities very seriously. The RAF Air cadets has issued a 'Safeguarding Guide' for parents, guardians and carers and the 'Cadet Confidentiality Promise,' which underlines our strong commitment and highlights the absolute responsibility to cooperate with other public sector safeguarding agencies. These are available from the RAF Air Cadets website.¹

The RAF Air Cadets strives to create an inclusive environment that sets the conditions for young people to achieve their potential, and I want you to be confident about how we manage safeguarding and child protection in that environment. At our Headquarters we have a dedicated Safeguarding Team, led by highly qualified social worker, who in addition to ensuring compliance with legislation and Government guidance, spend much of their time supporting people directly involved with child protection and safeguarding concerns. The Safeguarding Team also provide advice, coordinate investigations and, where necessary, share information with the civil authorities.

Be assured that any allegations of safeguarding breaches and matters of child protection are taken seriously and investigated as required by the Government's key guidance 'Working Together to Safeguard Children'.² Nothing is more important than your child's welfare, and it is our commitment to making sure that everyone in the RAF Air Cadets family, including children and young people, are fully aware of, and understand, the RAF Air Cadets' safeguarding and child protection arrangements.

¹ <https://www.raf.mod.uk/aircadets/the-hangar/safeguarding/>

² <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/working-together-to-safeguard-children--2>

