

Kingsbrook School

'A unique service for unique young people'

Staff Guidance on Involving the Police

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Staff Guidance on Involving the Police

It is recognised that due to the challenging behaviour of the young people placed at Kingsbrook, that it may at times be necessary to involve the Police.

It is also recognised that there is a risk of over involvement and that the Police should not be used to solve behaviour management difficulties that should be resolved internally.

Police will need to be informed when a young person absconds. This situation is covered in a separate policy.

It is not our intention to criminalise the young people placed here and the circumstances of an incident and the age, emotional development and understanding of the young person will all be taken into account.

In circumstances when a young person has been assaulted by another young person, they have the right to involve the Police. Following such an incident staff should ensure that all parties are safe and that medical attention is sought if necessary.

The young people should be given the opportunity to talk through the incident with a member of staff, both individually and if possible together, so that a considered decision is reached about whether they wish to involve the Police. All young people concerned will need support through this period. The staff member supporting the young person will inform the Registered Manager, or another member of the Management Team, of the request to involve the Police, before the complaint is officially made.

In circumstances when a member of staff has been assaulted by a young person they have the right to make a complaint to the Police. Following such an incident medical attention should be sought if necessary and the situation made safe. The member of staff and the young person will need support through this period. The member of staff should take time to consider all aspects of the incident, the young person, their behaviour and the factors leading up to the incident.

If a decision is made by the member of staff to make a formal complaint to the Police, the Operations Director is to be informed.

If an incident occurs which endangers the safety of the establishment and its occupants and it is felt necessary to have the police attend the site, the Head of School will immediately contact the Operations Director.

It is recognised that it may be necessary to call the Police immediately because the safety of all concerned is of paramount importance. However, where possible, contact with the Head of School/Operations Director should take place in the first instance, to seek approval to summon the police.

Following all such incidents the young person's Social Worker(s), Placing Authority and those with parental responsibility will be informed and the necessary incident and accident documentation completed.

Involving the Police?

10 point check list from the CPS

1. Have we implemented Kingsbrook's behaviour management / disciplinary policy? How?
2. Why have the police been involved and is it in line with our agreed policy?
3. What informal action or disciplinary action has already been taken?
4. Has there been any reparation or apology?
5. Has the victim's views been consulted and considered?
6. Was the social worker/parent/carer consulted?
7. Are these behaviours identified on the support plan?
8. Has the recent behaviour / incidents been considered?
9. What is the young person's view of the incident?
10. Any aggravating and mitigating features?