

**Marshall Aid Commemoration Commission**  
**SAFEGUARDING POLICY**

**Contents**

1. Policy Statement .....	2
2. Definition of Safeguarding .....	2
3. Safeguarding Prevention Measures .....	3
4. Scope of MACC Responsibility .....	3
5. Responsibilities of UK Universities and Other Relevant Parties.....	3
6. Reporting and Response.....	4
7. Breach of Safeguarding by a Scholar/Fellow .....	5
8. Confidentiality and Information Sharing .....	5
9. Governance and Review .....	5

## 1. Policy Statement

In line with the [Care Act of 2014](#) and as an [Arm's Length Body](#), the Marshall Aid Commemoration Commission (MACC) is committed to safeguarding:

- Children - anyone under 18;
- Adults at risk or vulnerable adults - anyone over 18 who has care and support needs and is unable to protect themselves or who may be at risk of abuse or neglect.

This policy relates to MACC-sponsored activities and events and applies to:

- Marshall Scholars/Marshall Sheffield Fellows
- Individuals attending or participating in MACC-sponsored activities
- Alumni, volunteers, partners or recipients of assistance
- Anyone who may be affected by the actions of a Commissioner, Secretariat member or representative

The MACC does not provide services to or directly oversee children (individuals under the age of 18). Any safeguarding matters relating to children, as they relate to a dependant of a Scholar/Fellow, fall under the responsibility of the relevant institution or statutory authority.

---

## 2. Definition of Safeguarding

For the purposes of this policy and in line with the Care Act 2014, safeguarding is defined as:

Protecting an adult's right to live in safety, free from harm, abuse and neglect.

For children, safeguarding and promoting welfare means protecting children from maltreatment, preventing impairment of health or development, and ensuring they grow up in safe and effective care, as set out in [Working Together to Safeguard Children](#).

Safeguarding concerns may relate to harm including, but not limited to:

- Physical abuse
- Neglect
- Exploitation (including financial exploitation)
- Digital or online abuse
- Sexual abuse and sexual exploitation
- Harassment

Safeguarding also includes preventing abuse of power, coercion, discriminatory abuse, and organisational abuse.

---

### 3. Safeguarding Prevention Measures

The MACC will embed safeguarding within internal processes through:

- Safe recruitment practices, including ensuring appropriate background checks
  - Mandatory safeguarding training for Secretariat staff. MACC Commissioner's adhere to the [Commissioner Code of Conduct](#). Secretariat staff adhere to the [British Council Code of Conduct](#).
  - Ensuring Scholars sign the [Scholar Code of Conduct](#) and adhere to accompanying policies. Scholars will also need to uphold any guidelines at their UK universities.
  - Ensuring appropriate protocols are in place prior to delivering events or activities
  - Clear reporting channels for Scholars/Fellows and other individuals
- 

### 4. Scope of MACC Responsibility

As an Arm's-Length Body, the MACC:

- Does not act as the primary safeguarding authority for Scholars or Fellows based at universities or partner institutions
  - Seeks to ensure safeguarding expectations are noted in funding and partnership agreements
  - Maintains safeguarding responsibilities during MACC-sponsored events and activities
  - May act where safeguarding concerns relate to Commissioners, Secretariat staff, volunteers, or other representatives
  - May intervene If made aware of a safeguarding incident that has not been handled appropriately to provide proportional support to the Scholar/Fellow, such as supporting them to escalate the concern or appeal
  - As outlined in the [Scholar Code of Conduct and Disciplinary Policy](#), may seek to terminate an award if there is a serious breach of safeguarding policy by a Scholar/Fellow whilst in receipt of funds that is substantiated by the university.
- 

### 5. Responsibilities of UK Universities and Other Relevant Parties

UK universities and other relevant parties (such as FCDO, British Embassy Washington, Association of Marshall Scholars (AMS) and delivery partners):

- Are expected to maintain and adhere to their own safeguarding and welfare policies
- Are responsible for safeguarding Scholars/Fellows in their activities
- Must manage safeguarding reports in line with their internal procedures and legal obligations

As noted above, if the MACC becomes aware of a safeguarding incident that has not been handled appropriately, the MACC may:

- Support a Scholar/Fellow to escalate or appeal a concern
- Liaise with the institution

Primary investigative responsibility remains with the UK institution unless the matter directly involves the MACC.

---

## 6. Reporting and Response

It is the Scholars/Fellows responsibility to familiarise themselves with the appropriate procedures at their hosting university or institution.

### a. Reporting of incidents at the UK university

If there is a concern relating to a safeguarding issue as defined in the relevant university guidance, it should be reported immediately following the university procedures.

Scholars/Fellows should also report safeguarding concerns raised with their university and/or other parties to the Secretariat staff.

Where there is immediate danger, emergency services (999 in the UK) should be contacted.

### b. Reporting of incidents at MACC-Sponsored activities

If there is a concern relating to a safeguarding issue as defined in section 2, it should be reported immediately.

- **Scholars/Fellows** – should report any concerns to the Secretariat contact listed below.
- **Secretariat Staff** – should report any concerns to the MACC contact listed below
- **Commissioners** – should report any concerns to the MACC contact listed below and/or the Chair
- **Others** – should report any concerns to the Secretariat contact in the first instance
- If the person making the complaint does not feel comfortable reporting to any of the designated contacts, they can submit a confidential report using the Secretariat's whistleblowing hotline SafeCall at <https://www.safecall.co.uk/clients/british-council/>

### c. Contacts for MACC-Sponsored reporting

- Secretariat: Haley Addison - [haley.addison@marshallscholarship.org](mailto:haley.addison@marshallscholarship.org)
- MACC Commissioner: Richard Black (interim) - [Richard.Black@liverpool.ac.uk](mailto:Richard.Black@liverpool.ac.uk)

### d. Response to Incidents at MACC-Sponsored activities

If a safeguarding concern occurs at a MACC-sponsored activity: It will be recorded and assessed promptly

- Handled in accordance with the [British Council Safeguarding Policy](#)
- If the concern is considered as a safeguarding incident, it will be investigated and reported to the MACC, FCDO and British Council.
- Support will be offered to the affected individual as appropriate and in a reasonable and proportionate manner

## 7. Breach of Safeguarding by a Scholar/Fellow

If the MACC becomes aware of a serious breach of safeguarding standards by a Scholar/Fellow while in receipt of funding, it will:

- Seek confirmation of findings from the host institution
- If allegations are substantiated through the university's formal processes, MACC may take action in accordance with the [Scholar Code of Conduct and Disciplinary Policy](#) .

This may include:

- Suspension or termination of funding
  - Recovery of funds (where appropriate)
- 

## 8. Confidentiality and Information Sharing

Safeguarding information will be handled sensitively and shared only on a need-to-know basis, in line with data protection legislation. If there is a risk of imminent harm to the reporter or others, MACC may be required to disclose information to third parties without the consent of the reporter.

---

## 9. Governance and Review

The MACC is responsible for:

- Receiving and reviewing concerns
  - Reporting and escalating to the British Council and the FCDO when necessary
  - Maintaining confidential records
  - Reviewing the policy annually or following a legislative change.
- 

**Approved By:** Marshall Aid Commemoration Commission

**Effective Date:** March 2026

**Review Date:** January 2028