



This Statement has been adopted and approved by Oxlip Learning Partnership and is to be used by all members of the Trust.

Modern Slavery – TRUST STATEMENT	
Approved by Trust	6 th December 2024
Date of next Review	Autumn 2028
Responsible Officer	CFO
Policy Number	-

This statement is made pursuant to Section 54, Part 6 of the Modern Slavery Act 2015 and sets out the steps the Oxlip Learning Partnership has taken and is committing to take to ensure that slavery and human trafficking is not taking place in our supply chains or in any part of our business.

The Oxlip Learning Partnership (the Trust) is committed to the highest standards of ethical conduct in all its activities. The Trust does not engage in, or condone, the practices of modern slavery, human trafficking or forced labour. The Trust is committed to acting ethically and with integrity when acquiring goods and services for its use.

The Trust is comprised of circa 4,350 learners and 625 employees across seven schools; five Primary Schools, one with a Nursery, and two Secondary Schools, plus three Specialist Units.

Procurement

The Trust uses a range of suppliers for a wide variety of supplies and services which can make it challenging to effectively manage sustainability issues. Our activities take place solely in England and our contractors and suppliers are predominantly UK based.

The Trust has identified the principal areas which carry material risks are Staff and Student uniform supply, ICT equipment and some estates services, such as cleaning, catering and security services, however this list is non-exclusive.

Respecting Human Rights and environmental issues in the supply chain is ultimately our suppliers' responsibility. However, as customers, the Trust accepts that it has an active role in clearly communicating our expectations to suppliers and challenging suppliers to provide information on their supply chain.

When procuring goods, works and services in higher risk categories the Trust ensures that suppliers are required to demonstrate their methods of corporate social responsibility during the tendering and selection process, details of which may vary according to the project.

Suppliers to the Oxlip Learning Partnership are required to fully comply with the Modern Slavery Act 2015 and confirm that they do so by accepting the Trust's Terms and Conditions. The Trust reserves the right to exclude any bidder who has been convicted of an offence under the Modern Slavery Act 2015.

As part of our commitment we resolve to:

- Comply with legislation and regulatory requirements;
- Ensure suppliers and service providers are aware that we promote the requirements set out in the Modern Slavery Act 2015;
- Ensure that the specification in tender documents includes compliance with the Modern Slavery Act 2015 as a condition;
- Undertake due diligence checks to ensure that companies in our supply chain are not engaged in modern slavery, human trafficking or forced labour;
- Evaluate specifications and tenders to ensure that full commitment is given to the issues of modern slavery and human trafficking;
- Identify awarded contracts that represent a potential risk of modern slavery and labour rights violations and work with our suppliers and request more information regarding how they monitor their supply chains and take appropriate action as necessary.

At present the Trust does not conduct audits of its suppliers and their business activities nor does it investigate working conditions in its supply chains in any other way.

Safeguarding

The Trust and its schools are committed to providing a safe and secure environment for pupils, staff and visitors by promoting a climate where pupils and adults feel confident about reporting concerns that they may have about their own safety or the wellbeing of others.

Our safeguarding and child protection policies are based on the Department for Education publication *Keeping Children Safe in Education*. All employees are required to read and understand the current version of this document. Each school within the Trust has a designated Safeguarding Lead and an appointed governor oversees and reports on safeguarding at local board meetings.

Recruitment

Our Trust and schools operate a robust recruitment policy, adhering to all safeguarding checks and eligibility to work in the UK. We believe that this recruitment process safeguarding against human trafficking or individuals being forced to work against their will.

Whistleblowing

The Trust has a clear Whistleblowing Policy so that all employees can raise concerns about how colleagues, or people receiving services from the Trust and its schools, are being treated, without fear of reprisals. This includes concerns about practices within our business or supply chain.

The Oxlip Learning Partnership commits to undertaking the following steps:

- Circulate this statement to all staff to raise awareness of the policy;
- Assess risk of procurement projects to determine risk exposure;
- Produce a comprehensive ethical and environmentally sustainable Procurement Policy, to encompass this Modern Slavery Statement and set out our principals, procedures and controls that underpin and demonstrate the ethical standards that Oxlip Learning Partnership sets across all purchasing activities.

In terms of further future development, the Oxlip Learning Partnership expresses its commitment to better understand its supply chains and working towards greater transparency in the processes that go into producing our goods and services. As a business whose core aim is to ensure the safe, healthy development of children and young adults it is imperative to the Trust that we are not causing harm to others in the process.