

# The Greenwood Academies Trust Case Study

Administering Safeguarding Training for over 8 years with The Greenwood Academies Trust



## ABOUT THE GREENWOOD ACADEMIES TRUST

The Greenwood Academies Trust currently has 37 open academies educating approximately 18,000 pupils across 7 local authority areas. The Trust's vision is to make sure that every child thrives in a GAT academy. The Trust is a 'not for profit' organisation, supporting services for finance, ICT, procurement, HR, catering, data, curriculum development, staff development, health and safety and extended opportunities that are led by Central Teams operating across the Trust.

## How We Helped Them



Provided dedicated account management over 8 years, ensuring they receive the attention and support they deserve



Effective onboarding plan with clear instructions, training materials, and hands-on assistance



Dedicated customer support offering prompt, reliable, and personalised support

## CHALLENGES



Safeguarding is a major consideration for any academy or Multi Academy Trust and the Greenwood Academies Trust is one of the few trusts in the country with a dedicated Safeguarding Director with overview for the strategic development of safeguarding within the Trust.

Consistency and quality in their safeguarding training provision throughout all academies was a must. By allocating set modules to all staff, this has been successfully achieved.

Many of the academies are within areas needing high levels of pupil support and with more than 3,000 members of staff across it, it is a priority to implement a high quality and efficient training solution. Consistency of high level training is essential.

## WHAT WE DELIVERED



- Unlimited access to over 50 safeguarding training courses for over 3,000 staff across its 37 academies
- A user friendly and intuitive LMS that houses all safeguarding training content
- Efficient tracking and reporting through the LMS allowing control of internal assurance processes
- Ability to upload own content through the content creation feature of the LMS
- Complemented their blended training approach

## THE RESULTS



Within the first 3 months, almost **14,000 online courses** had already been allocated to the Trust's staff from Virtual College's suite of safeguarding titles.

Distributing some of the Trust's own specific online content and plans made **additional time and costs savings**.

**26,480 courses completed** and counting since launch

Out of 148 responses, **an impressive 107 rated the training as 'good'**, reflecting our commitment to delivering quality learning experiences



## WHAT THEIR TRUST SAFEGUARDING MANAGER HAD TO SAY

We asked The Greenwood Academies Trust's Safeguarding Manager what they thought:

'The key driver for choosing Virtual College's online safeguarding training was value for money rather than cost saving. Buying centrally for the Trust has allowed us to achieve significant cost savings compared to buying individually. It provides an economical solution for our academies.'

We researched other safeguarding providers but I was impressed by the quality and wide range of courses provided by Virtual College

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### Virtual College is fantastic

With over 3,000 members of staff across multiple sites, the Virtual College LMS is vital to our efficient and effective administration, allowing us to track and report on learning and compliance quickly and easily.

Ofsted will visit our academies individually but will also review the Trust. Having the online learning courses and Enable reporting gives us confidence that we are able to respond quickly and appropriately to Ofsted's information requests.

Trust Safeguarding Manager,  
Greenwood Academies Trust

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## WHAT THEIR LEARNERS HAD TO SAY

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'This course was much more accessible due to the interactive features. It was easier to digest and the questions were related closely to the information.'

'I found this to be a very informative session on e-safety.'

'Really good - a concise but informative course that provided a good refresher for me.'

'It was extremely helpful and I feel better equipped to notice the signs.'

'This course taught me a lot, and I now know to keep these behaviours in the back of my mind.'

[See the web version](#)



At Virtual College, our purpose is simple; to change the shape of workplace training. All of our training resources are built with one objective: to put your learners first.

This not only means designing engaging and interactive courses, it also means providing the highest-quality content at all times.