

# The Local Authority Designated Officer (LADO) role Information for Early Years providers

Local Authority Designated Officer is Sam Efde. Assistant LADO is Susan Giles.

The LADO deals with the management of allegations against staff who work or volunteer with children.

The LADO sits within the Safeguarding Unit, and is based at St Mark's House, Eastbourne.

Referrals originate from several sources including Education, Early Years, Health, Transport, Faith Groups, or any service who provide activities for children. Police have their own complaints and investigation procedures.

The LADO role includes liaison with Adults Services, who now have their own LADO in relation to adults who work in adult settings.

The LADO also attends meetings with groups, including independent schools, disability services, and supports agencies with updates to safeguarding policies.

The LADO has close links with the Standards and Learning Effectiveness Service (SLES) regarding OFSTED complaints from parents or other third parties, about Early Years and Education provisions and assists with School Safeguarding Reviews.

Under changes in Working Together, July 2018 a new section is included: 'People in Positions of Trust,' which places emphasis on organisational responsibility towards people who work in positions of trust. The guidance states that organisations and agencies working with children and families should have clear policies for dealing with allegations against people who work with children. Any allegation against people who work with children should be reported immediately to a senior manager within the organisation or agency. The LADO should also be informed within one working day of all allegations that come to an employer's attention or that are made directly to the police.

(See Guidance and Flowchart)

If a LADO consultation is required, please go to the LADO webpage and complete the online referral form, which will go direct to the LADO inbox. The LADO/Assistant LADO will contact you by phone or email regarding your enquiry and offer advice in the usual way.

<https://www.eastsussex.gov.uk/childrenandfamilies/professional-resources/lado/>

All referral/consultation requests must include the following information for adults and children:

- Full names, dates of birth and addresses for member of staff and child/ren involved
- Relevant employment history including any previous disciplinary investigations, allegations or complaints you are aware of.
- Details of any employment in another local authority area where applicable.
- Details of any secondary roles.

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