

Safeguarding Policy & Procedure

COMMITMENT TO SAFEGUARDING

At Flourishing Futures, we are dedicated to ensuring that no child or vulnerable adult experiences abuse of any kind. We are committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of all individuals who use our services. We believe everyone has the right to be protected from all types of abuse and harm.

PURPOSE OF THIS POLICY

This policy is designed to:

- Protect children and vulnerable adults who receive services from Flourishing Futures, including the children of adults using our services.
- Provide guidance for staff and volunteers on our approach to safeguarding and child protection.

LEGAL FRAMEWORK

Our safeguarding policy is based on the following legislation and guidance:

- Children Act 1989
- United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child 1991
- Data Protection Act 1998
- Sexual Offences Act 2003
- Children Act 2004
- Protection of Freedoms Act 2012
- Children and Social Work Act 2017
- Working Together to Safeguard Children 2018

DEFINITIONS

- Child: Anyone who has not yet reached their 18th birthday.
- Vulnerable Adult: Someone aged 18 or over who may be unable to care for themselves or protect themselves from significant harm or exploitation due to factors such as disability, mental health issues, or addiction.

WHAT IS ABUSE?

Abuse can be physical, sexual, emotional, or involve neglect. It can occur in various settings and involve family members, friends, professionals, or strangers.

Types of Abuse:

- Physical Abuse
- Neglect
- Emotional or psychological Abuse
- Domestic Abuse
- Sexual Abuse
- Child Sexual Exploitation
- Female Genital Mutilation
- Harmful Sexual Behaviour
- Child Trafficking
- Modern slavery
- Financial or material Abuse
- Discriminatory Abuse
- Organisational or institutional Abuse

KEY PRINCIPLES

Flourishing Futures upholds the following principles:

- The welfare of the child or vulnerable adult is paramount.
- We are committed to creating a safe environment for children and vulnerable adults.
- We will establish a safe environment, implement a code of conduct, and ensure effective management and training.
- We will follow safer recruitment practices and share information about safeguarding vulnerable adults and children with all relevant parties.
- We will take all concerns seriously and respond appropriately, which may include referrals to relevant authorities.

SAFEGUARDING OFFICERS

Kerstin Campsall & Georgina Clark

Their responsibilities include:

- Staying updated with safeguarding legislation and best practices.
- Knowing which authorities to contact in case of concerns.
- Ensuring confidentiality and secure handling of data.
- Reviewing and updating the safeguarding policy annually

TRAINING AND RECRUITMENT

- **Safeguarding Training:** All staff members will update their adult and child protection knowledge annually.
- **Safer Recruitment:** All staff members undergo an enhanced DBS check. Flourishing Futures takes no responsibility for fraudulent DBS disclosures.

HANDLING CONCERNS

If you have concerns about a child or vulnerable adult:

1. Take any immediate action needed to address the risk.
2. Discuss your concerns with a Safeguarding Officer.
3. Make a factual note of your observations and discuss the situation confidentially.
4. Ensure the child or vulnerable adult's safety and well-being throughout the process.
5. Report concerns without delay to a Safeguarding Officer

REFERRALS AND ALLEGATIONS

- When making a referral to the Local Authority Designated Officer (LADO), provide detailed and factual information.
- Keep records of all communications and be prepared for follow-up discussions.
- Support the child or vulnerable adult throughout the process.

For allegations against Flourishing Futures staff, contact Kerstin Campsall and/or Georgina Clark. All allegations must be reported to the relevant LADO.

CONTACT FOR IMMEDIATE ADVICE

For immediate advice, contact the NSPCC 24-hour helpline at 0808 800 5000.

[Safeguarding - NHS Safeguarding](#)

[How we deal with safeguarding concerns - GOV.UK](#)

Flourishing Futures LLP

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