



## **Statement of Safeguarding Principles**

**If there is a serious safeguarding concern about a child in an emergency call the Police immediately on 999.**

**If there is a serious concern about a child or young person that requires immediate attention call the Westmorland and Furness Safeguarding Hub on 0300 373 2724**

### **Principles**

We are committed to:

- the care and nurture and respectful pastoral care of all children, young people and adults
- the safeguarding and protection of all children, young people and adults at all times
- the establishing of safe, caring communities which provide a loving environment where there is informed vigilance as to the dangers of abuse.

We will safely recruit and train all those with responsibility including the use of disclosure and barring services.

We will respond without delay to every complaint made which suggests that an adult, child or young person may have been harmed, cooperating with the police and local authority in any investigation.

We will seek to work with anyone who has suffered abuse, developing with them an appropriate ministry of informed pastoral care.

We will seek to challenge any abuse of power, especially by anyone in a position of trust.

In all these principles we will follow legislation, guidance and recognised good practice.

# Safeguarding Children and Adults at Risk Policy

---

The Trustees of the KEY Project recognise that none of us is invulnerable but that there is a particular care requirement for those whose vulnerability is increased by situations, by disabilities or by reduction in capacities and therefore we affirm that the needs of children or of people when they are vulnerable are paramount and we confirm our commitment in accordance with our Safeguarding Principles. All children and young people are acknowledged to be invariably vulnerable. It is recognised that this increased vulnerability may be temporary or permanent and may be visible or invisible, but that it does not diminish our humanity and seeks to affirm the gifts and graces of all.

This policy addresses the safeguarding of children, young people and adults at risk. It is intended to be a dynamic policy. It is intended to support the KEY Project in being a safe supportive environment for children, young people, adults at risk, for survivors of abuse, for communities and for those affected by abuse.

The Trustees of the KEY Project recognise the serious issue of the abuse of children and adults at risk and recognises that this may take the form of physical, emotional, sexual, financial, spiritual or institutional abuse or neglect. It acknowledges the effects these may have on people and their development including spiritual and religious development. It accepts its responsibility for ensuring that all people are safe in its care and that their dignity and right to be heard is maintained. It accepts its responsibility to support, listen to and work for healing with survivors, offenders, communities and those who care about them. It takes seriously the issues of promotion of welfare so that each of us can reach our full potential.

The Trustees of the KEY Project commit themselves to respond without delay to any allegation or cause for concern that a child or adult at risk may have been harmed. It commits itself to challenge the abuse of power of anyone in a position of trust.

The Trustees of the KEY Project commit themselves to the provision of support, advice and training for workers and volunteers that will ensure people are clear and confident about their roles and responsibilities in safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and adults who may be vulnerable.

The Trustees of the KEY Project affirm and give thanks for the work of those who are workers with children and adults at risk and acknowledge the shared responsibility of all of us for safeguarding adults at risk who are engaged in our activities.

The Trustees of the KEY Project will identify a designated safeguarding lead (DSL) and support them in that role to:

- i) support and advise the trustees in the implementation of safeguarding
- ii) advise on safeguarding issues

- iv) support safeguarding best practice in the project

The DSL will be trained to level 3 safeguarding (Children) using an accredited provider. This will be appropriately refreshed and in any case at least every three years.

a) **Raising of Safeguarding Concerns**

All safeguarding concerns, as a matter of urgency, must be notified to the DSL and in consultation with the relevant youth worker a decision will be made if to involve other agencies.

If there is a serious safeguarding concern about a child who is in an emergency situation anyone can call the police immediately on 999. The DSL, deputy or other trustee must be notified as soon as is practical and in any case within 12 hours

If there is a serious concern about a child or young person that requires immediate attention anyone can call the Westmorland and Furness Safeguarding Hub on 0300 373 2724. The DSL, deputy or other trustee must be notified as soon as is practical and in any case within 12 hours.

The designated safeguarding lead is:

Dr Andrew Skinner

[keysafe@eiderduck.co.uk](mailto:keysafe@eiderduck.co.uk)

07362 593076

Deputy (only if AS not available)

Mr Greg Tagney

Same address and email.

By post (marked confidential)

Cross View House

6 The Square

Milnthorpe

LA7 7QJ

b) **Good Practice**

We believe good practice means that:

- i) All people are treated with respect and dignity.
- ii) Workers and volunteers should not meet or work alone with a child or adult at risk where the activity cannot be seen unless this is necessary for pastoral reasons, in which case a written note of this will be made and kept, noting date, time and place of visit.
- iii) Risk assessments will be done for all premises used and a report will be given annually to the Trustees in written form. This will include fire safety procedures. The

trustees will consider the extent to which the premises and equipment are suitable or should be made more suitable.

- iv) Any transport of children or adults at risk will be checked by the Youth Worker to ensure the vehicle is suitable and insured and that the driver and escort are appropriate.
- v) Promotion of safeguarding is recognised to include undertaking those tasks which enable all to reach their full potential. The trustees will actively consider the extent to which it is succeeding in this area.

c) **Appointment and training of workers and volunteers**

Workers will be safely recruited and will normally have an unblemished DBS disclosure. Volunteers might already have an acceptable DBS disclosure. If not then disclosure will be sought before the volunteer begins. Each worker will be expected to complete basic safeguarding training as soon as practical after appointment. Volunteers will undergo a safeguarding briefing. Other training needs of each worker will be addressed. Each worker will have an annual review conducted by a trustee. All paid workers who have face to face contact with service users must refresh their safeguarding training every year. Unpaid workers must renew their training every three years. DBS disclosure will be renewed every three years. The DBS Update Service is preferred.

d) **Guidelines for working with children, young people and adults at risk**

Suitable induction and training will be given to each worker and volunteer with adults at risk covering.

e) **Events with groups**

Adequate staffing will be ensured for all events. Notification of any event will be given to the trustees.

f) **Complaints procedure**

It is hoped that complaints can generally be dealt with internally by the organisation. However, a complaint may be made to the Chair of Trustees. If a complaint is made to another person, it should be passed to the Chair. The Chair will nominate a Trustee who will arrange to meet with the complainant and attempt to resolve the complaint. If the complaint cannot be resolved it should be referred to the Chair, who with at least one other Trustee who has not previously been involved in the handling of the particular complaint, will meet with the complainant and seek to resolve the complaint.

g) **Review**

This policy will be reviewed yearly by the trustees.

h) **Key concepts and definitions**

- i) Anyone in England and Wales who has not yet reached their 18<sup>th</sup> birthday is in law a child. Generally the term “young person” is preferred in the later years. Anyone

who has reached their 18<sup>th</sup> birthday is an adult.

- ii) Adults at risk:- any adult who, for any reason, for example disability, age, illness or other situation is permanently or temporarily unable to take care of her or himself, or to protect her or himself from significant harm or exploitation.
- iii) Safeguarding and protecting children or adults at risk from maltreatment:- preventing impairment of their health and ensuring safe and effective care.
- iv) Adult/child protection is a part of safeguarding and promoting welfare. This refers to the activity which is undertaken to protect children/specific adults who are suffering or are at risk of suffering significant harm, including neglect.
- v) Abuse and neglect may occur in a family, in a community and in an institution. It may be perpetrated by a person or persons known to the child or adult at risk or by strangers, by an adult or by a child. It may be an infliction of harm or a failure to prevent harm.