



Safeguarding Statement

Introduction

IARS policy applies to all staff, including senior managers and the board of trustees, paid staff, volunteers and sessional workers, agency staff, students or anyone working on behalf of The IARS International Institute (IARS).

The purpose of this policy is:

- to protect children, young people and vulnerable adults who receive IARS' services. This includes the children of adults who use our services;
- to provide staff and volunteers with the overarching principles that guide our approach to safeguarding and the protection of individuals.

IARS believes that a child, young person or vulnerable adult should never experience any abuse of any kind. We have a responsibility to promote the welfare of all children, young people and vulnerable adults and to keep them safe and we are committed to practise in a way that protects them.

Legal Framework

This policy has been drawn up on the basis of law and guidance that seeks to protect children namely:

- Children Act 1989
- United Convention of the Rights of the Child 1991
- Human Rights Act 1998
- Sexual Offences Act 2003
- Children Act 2004
- Safeguarding Vulnerable Groups Act 2006
- Protection of Freedoms Act 2012
- Children and Families Act 2014
- Data Protection Act 2018

- Special educational needs and disability (SEND) code of practice: 0 to 25 years – Statutory guidance for organisations which work with and support children and young people who have special educational needs or disabilities; HM Government 2014
- Information sharing: Advice for practitioners providing safeguarding services to children, young people, parents and carers; HM Government 2015
- Working together to safeguard children: a guide to inter-agency working to safeguard and promote the welfare of children; HM Government 2015

This policy should be read alongside our policies and procedures on:



- Recruitment, induction and training
- Protection from harassment policy
- Electronic information and communications policy
- Whistleblowing policy
- Health and safety policy
- Lone worker policy
- Disciplinary and dismissal policy
- Child protection policy, which includes:
 - Role of the designated safeguarding officer
 - Dealing with disclosures and concerns about a vulnerable person
 - Managing allegations against staff and volunteers
- Recruitment and selection policy
- Policy on the statement of the recruitment of ex-offenders
- Volunteer Policy
- Complaints Policy

We recognise that:

- The welfare of the child people is paramount, as enshrined in the Children Act 1989
- All people, regardless of age, disability, gender, racial heritage, religious belief, sexual orientation or identity, have a right to equal protection from all types of harm or abuse
- Some people are additionally vulnerable because of the impact of previous experiences, their level of dependency, communication needs or other issues
- Working in partnership with vulnerable adults, children, young people, their parents, carers and other agencies is essential in promoting people's welfare

We will seek to keep children, young people and vulnerable adults safe by:

- Valuing them, listening to and respecting them
- Appointing a Designated Safeguarding Officer (DSO) for children and young people, a deputy and a lead board member for safeguarding
- Adopting child protection and safeguarding practices through procedures and a code of conduct for staff and volunteers
- Developing and implementing an effective e-safety policy and related procedures
- Providing effective management for staff and volunteers through supervision, support, training and quality assurance measures
- Recruiting staff and volunteers safely, ensuring all necessary checks are made
- Recording and storing information professionally and securely in line with GDPR regulations
- Sharing information about our safeguarding policy and good practice with vulnerable groups and their families or carers, staff and volunteers via leaflets, posters, one-to-one discussions
- Using our safeguarding procedures to share concerns and relevant information with agencies who need to know and involving children, young people, parents, families and carers appropriately



- Creating and maintain an anti-bullying environment and ensuring that we have a policy and procedure to help us deal effectively with any bullying that does arise
- Ensuring that we have effective complaints and whistleblowing measures in place
- Ensuring that we provide a safe physical environment for our children, young people, staff and volunteers, by applying health and safety measures in accordance with the law and regulatory guidance

Contact details

Designated Safeguarding Officer (DSO)

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Child Exploitation and Online Protection command (CEOP)
www.ceop.police.uk

NSPCC Helpline
0808 800 5000
www.nspcc.org.uk

Review

We are committed to reviewing our policy and good practice annually.

This policy was last reviewed on: 6th April 2020