Coreset Safeguarding Policy – Children and Young People

Last review: October 2026
Next review date October 2027
Owner: Rebecca Blackwood, Director and Designated Safeguarding Officer (DSO)

Designated Safeguarding Officer: Rebecca Blackwood
Deputy Designated Safeguarding Officer: Tom Martin / Lisa Robinson

Our Safeguarding Policy and Safeguarding Procedures will be reviewed annually. These documents are regularly monitored and updated in the event of any incident or update in legislation by our Designated Safeguarding Officer (DSO) and Deputy DSO/s (DDSO).

Our Safeguarding policy documentation is available on our website.

1. Definitions

Child: Working Together to Safeguard children defines a child as 'anyone who has not yet reached their 18th birthday. The fact that a child has reached 16 years of age, is living independently or is in further education, is a member of the armed forces, is in hospital or in custody in the secure estate, does not change their status or entitlements to services or protection.

Young person: The term young person may be used to acknowledge the maturity of children as they reach adulthood. For the purpose of this policy, 'young person' refers to anyone under the age of 18 who is still a child in the eyes of the law unless we refer specifically to a young person as being over the age of 18.

Adult at Risk: Safeguarding duties apply to an adult who:

- has needs for care and support (whether or not the local authority is meeting any of those needs)
- is experiencing, or at risk of, abuse or neglect
- as a result of those care and support needs is unable to protect themselves from either the risk of, or the experience of abuse or neglect

Safeguarding: Safeguarding is the action taken to promote the welfare of children and adults at risk and protect them from harm.

Child protection: Specifically deals with cases where a child is at risk or experiencing significant harm, taking reactive measures to protect them.

2. Purpose of this policy

The purpose of this Safeguarding Policy is:

- To protect children and young people under the age of 18 who engage with or receive services from all types of harm and maltreatment. This includes the children of any adults who engage with our services and activities.

- To support a culture of safeguarding to be upheld and promoted.

- To ensure that all volunteers and anyone working on our behalf are aware of the principles and guidance that sits behind our safeguarding approach.

- To ensure that children and their families are aware of the guidance and principles that guide our safeguarding approach.

Our Safeguarding Policy applies to anyone working on our behalf and anyone else acting on our behalf.

3. Policy Statement

We believe that:

- The welfare of children, young people is paramount and we have a responsibility to keep them safe.
- Children and young people have a right to protection from all types of maltreatment,

harm and abuse.

- We will give equal priority to keeping all children and young people safe regardless of their age, disability, gender reassignment, race, religion or belief, sex, or sexual orientation.
- Some children and young people may be additionally vulnerable because of the impact of discrimination, previous experiences, their level of dependency, communication or any other additional needs.
- Working together in collaboration with children and young people, their families, carers and other agencies is essential in delivering effective safeguarding practices.

We recognise that safeguarding issues may trigger memories of historic abuse for adults. The helpline for the National Association of People Abused in Childhood is 0808 801 0331 and their website is http://napac.org.uk

Statutory guidance on safeguarding can be found here:
https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/working-together-to-safeguard-children

4. How we communicate and train volunteers about safeguarding

Everyone working at Coreset, will:

- Be given our safeguarding and child policies as part of their induction.
- Be given information about IT and social media usage policy and how IT and social media usage is monitored.
- Be given the opportunity to participate in discussions about safeguarding held regularly during meetings to encourage a culture of safeguarding e.g., by identifying particular programmes for staff to be aware of.
- Be invited to attend at least one information refresher session per year on Safeguarding Policy and Procedures.

5. Context

This policy is informed by the following legal requirements and guidance:

- Children Act 1989 & 2004
- Education Act 2010
- Human Rights Act 1998
- Equality Act 2010
- Health and Safety At Work Act 1974
- 'Working Together to Safeguard Children' (2023)
- Children and Social Work Act 2017
- Safeguarding Vulnerable Groups Act 2006
- United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child – children have a right to be free from any form of abuse
- Police Act 1997
- Adoption and Children Act 2002
- Sexual Offences Act 2003
- Mental Capacity Act 2005
- Keeping Arts Safe (Arts Council England, October 2005).

- Care Act (2014)
- University of Leicester Safeguarding Policy: https://le.ac.uk/policies/safeguarding

Further information is detailed here: https://learning.nspcc.org.uk/child-protection-system/

6. Our Commitment

We are committed to actively safeguarding all children and young people, and students over the age of 18 from harm and maltreatment by:

- Having an appointed Designated Safeguarding Officer (DSO) and one Deputy DSO.
- Provide management of volunteers with regard to their safeguarding responsibilities through training, support and audits.
- Continually developing our detailed safeguarding, child protection and Adults at Risk policies and procedures in order to reflect best practice nationally, seeking external consultancy as required.
- Listening to Adults at Risk and respecting them.
- Ensuring that Adults at Risk, their families and support staff know about our Safeguarding Policy and Procedures and what to do if they have a concern.
- Create a culture of safeguarding in which all staff, Advisory Board, freelance whre artists and volunteers feel comfortable sharing concerns.
- Storing and recording data in a secure and appropriate manner.
- Disseminating information to those we work with if required.
- Making clear in our Safeguarding Procedures how we work with external parties including the Safeguarding Partnership.
- Making clear in our Safeguarding Procedures how we manage allegations.
- Making clear in our Safeguarding Procedures how we address bullying.
- Making clear in our Safeguarding Procedures our whistleblowing policy and procedures.

7. Supporting documents

This policy statement should be read alongside our organisational policies, procedures, guidance and other related documents:

- Safeguarding Procedures
- Role description for the Designated Safeguarding Officer (DSO)
- Dealing with disclosures and concerns about a child or young person or Adult at Risk
- Managing allegations against staff and volunteers
- Recording concerns and information sharing
- Child protection records retention and storage
- Code of conduct for staff and volunteers
- Behaviour codes for children and young people, and Adults at Risk
- Photography and sharing images guidance
- Online safety
- Anti-bullying
- Managing complaints

- Whistleblowing
- Health and safety
- Induction, training, supervision and support
- Adult to child supervision ratios

8. Contact details

Designated Safeguarding Officer (DSO):	Rebecca Blackwood	07974 982435 rebecca@rebeccablackwood.com
Deputy DSO (DDSO):	Tom Martin Lisa Robinson	
LADO – Local Authority Designated Officer The LADO's role relates specifically to the safeguarding of children. They give advice and guidance to employers and voluntary organisations; liaise with the Police and other agencies, and monitor the progress of cases to ensure that they are dealt with as quickly as possible consistent with a thorough and fair process.		

NSPCC Helpline		0808 800 5000 (24-hour service)
Childline		0800 1111

Ann Craft Trust	A Leading UK Authority on Safeguarding Adults	https://www.anncrafttrust.or g/