



Safeguarding Policy

The purpose and scope of this policy statement

Positivity works with children and young people as part of its activities. These include counselling and shared artwork.

The purpose of this policy statement is:

- to protect children and young people who receive Positivity's services. This includes the children of adults who use our services
- to provide staff with the overarching principles that guide our approach to safeguarding.

This policy statement applies to anyone working on behalf of Positivity.

Legal framework

This policy has been drawn up on the basis of legislation, policy and guidance that seeks to protect children in England. A summary of the key legislation and guidance is available from [nspcc.org.uk/childprotection](https://www.nspcc.org.uk/childprotection).

We believe that:

- children and young people should never experience abuse of any kind
- we have a responsibility to promote the welfare of all children and young people, to keep them safe and to practise in a way that protects them.

We recognise that:

- the welfare of the child is paramount
- all children, regardless of age, disability, gender reassignment, race, religion or belief, sex, or sexual orientation have a right to equal protection from all types of harm or abuse
- some children are additionally vulnerable because of the impact of previous experiences, their level of dependency, communication needs or other issues
- working in partnership with children, young people, their parents, carers and other agencies is essential in promoting young people's welfare (see *Working Together to Safeguard Children*, H M Government, July 2018).

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

- valuing, listening to and respecting them
- appointing a nominated child protection/safeguarding lead
- developing a safeguarding policy and procedures which reflect best practice
- 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 maintaining an anti-bullying environment and ensuring that we have procedures to help us deal effectively with any bullying that does arise
- developing and implementing effective online safety procedures
- sharing information about child protection and safeguarding best practice with children, their families, staff and volunteers via leaflets, posters, group work and one-to-one discussions
- recruiting staff safely, ensuring all necessary checks are made
- providing effective management for staff through supervision, support, training and quality assurance measures (see related National Counselling Society documents)
- using NCS procedures to manage any allegations against staff appropriately
- ensuring that we have effective complaints and whistleblowing measures in place
- ensuring that we provide a safe physical environment for our children, young people and staff, by applying health and safety measures in accordance with the law and regulatory guidance
- recording and storing information professionally and securely (see Privacy Policy)
- assessing risk in conjunction with parents and carers, supervisor, other external partners
- minimising lone working with children and young people, or using audio recordings when appropriate (with relevant permissions)

Contact details

Nominated child protection lead

Name: Nigel Bishop Phone: 07505 425994 E-mail: nigel@positivity.uk.com

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

This policy was last reviewed on:

10th January 2019

Signed: *NK Bishop*

Date: 10th January 2019

Based on a template found at:

<https://learning.nspcc.org.uk/media/1601/safeguarding-policy-statement-example.pdf>