



Safeguarding adults

1.2.b Safeguarding adults at risk from harm

Policy statement

The Bumblebee Children's Charity works with children, parents/carers and the community to ensure the rights and safety of children and to give them the very best start in life. We have a duty of care and are committed to the protection and safety of everyone who enters our premises including children, young people and adults, visitors and/or participants in our activities and events. This policy applies to anyone working on behalf of the Bumblebee Children's Charity including the board of trustees, paid staff, volunteers, sessional workers, agency staff, students and visitors over the age of 18.

Legal Framework

This policy has been drawn up on the basis of legislation, policy and guidance that seeks to protect adults in England. A summary of the key legislation and guidance is available from [Ann Craft Trust](#) and draws principally from the following legislation and guidance:

- [Care and support statutory guidance 2014](#) (and amendments 2018)

We believe that:

- vulnerable adults should never experience abuse of any kind.
- We have a responsibility to prevent and report concerns about the abuse, neglect and ill-treatment of adults who are at risk of being harmed, alongside our responsibility to protect children who have suffered abuse.
- Anyone employed or volunteers for, or on behalf of, the Bumblebee Children's Charity has a role to play in safeguarding and protecting adults at risk of abuse.

We recognise that:

- Adults of risk of abuse can be anyone over the age of eighteen.
- Adults of risk of abuse may have particular special needs such as disability, illness or communication difficulties.
- Risk of abuse may increase with life circumstances such as socio-economic factors, isolation in the community and environmental living conditions.
- all adults, regardless of age, disability, gender reassignment, race, religion or belief, sex, or sexual orientation have an equal right to protection from all types of harm or abuse.
- adults can be abused in a family, at a community event, in any type of organisation, by those known to them or others.

We will seek to keep adults safe by:

- valuing, listening to and respecting them.
- appointing a nominated Designated Safeguarding Lead a deputy and a trustee for safeguarding (see contact details below.)
- adopting adult protection and safeguarding best practice through our policies, procedures and code of conduct for staff and volunteers.
- providing effective management for staff and volunteers through supervision, support, training and quality assurance measures so that all staff and volunteers know about and follow our policies and procedures.
- confidently and competently recruiting and selecting staff and volunteers safely, ensuring all necessary checks are made.
- Recording, storing and using information professionally and securely, in line with data protection legislation and guidance.
- sharing information about safeguarding and good practice with families.
- making sure that adults know where to go for help if they have a concern.
- 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.
- using our procedures to manage any allegations against staff and volunteers appropriately.
- ensuring that we have effective complaints and whistleblowing measures in place.
- ensuring that we provide a safe physical environment for our adults by applying health and safety measures in accordance with the law and regulatory guidance.
- building a safeguarding culture where staff and volunteers, children, young people and their families, treat each other with respect and are comfortable about sharing concerns.
- following the Prevent Duty guidance in responding to concerns about radicalisation.
- being alert to threats adults may face from outside their families, such as those posed by online use, gang culture and sexual exploitation.
- recognising that if a parent attended with their child but staff felt that the parent did not have the mental capacity to make decisions for themselves or their child, or they were deemed unsafe around the classroom, we would not exclude them or their child from attending, however we would ask that the parent brought someone to support them and their child to remain safe.

Contact details:

Designated Safeguarding Lead: Michelle Elliot

Deputy Safeguarding Lead: Bernadett Patai

Phone: 01473 652822

Safeguarding trustee: Ivana Barron

Email: ivana.barron@icloud.com

Training

- We seek out regular training opportunities for all adults involved in The Bumblebee Children's Charity to ensure that they are able to recognise and respond to the signs of possible physical, emotional and sexual abuse, neglect and contextual safeguarding issues (such as county lines and drug related abuse, domestic violence, online safety, modern day slavery, human trafficking, financial abuse and hate crimes) and that they are aware of the local authority guidelines for making referrals.
- The families the charity works with can be affected by, and exposed to harm in, the different environments and communities where they live and work. Contextually some of the Safeguarding concerns that currently arise in Suffolk are related to:
 - County Lines and drug trafficking and related gangs and gang culture
 - Cuckooing - the practice where professional drug dealers/Crime Gangs take over the property of an adult at risk and use it as a place from which to run their drugs business/ crime activity.
- We ensure that all staff, trustees and volunteers know the procedures for reporting and recording their concerns at The Bumblebee Children's Charity.

Dealing with disclosures and concerns about an adult

We acknowledge that abuse of adults can take different forms - physical, emotional, and sexual, as well as neglect. When adults are suffering from abuse this may be demonstrated through the things they say or through changes in their appearance or their behaviour.

Where a concern is identified, we must communicate very clearly what we have done and will be doing to safeguard the adult at risk, unless to do so would in any way increase risk to them or a child. Capacity will be assumed unless there is reason to believe that the person cannot understand.

Where such evidence of abuse is apparent, the staff member will notify the Designated Safeguarding Lead who will:

- call 999 if the adult is in immediate danger
- use the Suffolk [Safeguarding adults framework](#) to support decision making
- Where appropriate refer concerns to the MASH Professional Consultation Line 0345 606 1499 and co-operate fully in any subsequent investigation or
- submit a **Multi-agency referral form** through the [Suffolk Adult Care Portal](#)
- make a dated record of the details of the concern. These records will be kept in a secure confidential file.
- report to the Safeguarding trustee who may be required to notify the Charity Commission of a serious incident in line with the [charity commission requirements](#)

Supporting information:

This policy should be read alongside our organisational policies, procedures and guidance and other related documents found on our [website](#):

- Privacy policy
- Confidentiality and Client access to Records
- Information sharing
- Making a Complaint (includes Whistleblowing procedure)
- Information Technology
- Photography policy and procedure
- Working in partnership with other agencies

Find out more about Safeguarding at these useful links:

- [Suffolk Safeguarding Partnership](#)
- [Adult abuse and safeguarding](#)
- [Ann Craft Trust](#)

This Policy was adopted by The Bumblebee Children's Charity and will be reviewed yearly.

Date 17.01.24

Name of signatory Lindsay Warne

Role of signatory Charity Administrator

Signed on behalf of the Trustees