



SAFEGUARDING & CHILD PROTECTION POLICY

The purpose and scope of this policy statement:

To provide a dedicated service for young people, adults, families, professionals and organisations that promotes understanding, awareness, and education to the consequences of Substance Misuse, Volatile Substance Misuse & County Lines (trafficking drugs into rural areas and smaller towns, away from major cities). Working towards the prevention of related deaths, illness, accidents, crimes and the impact such misuse has on the family and community, enabling a safer, stronger and healthier environment.

To provide confidential information, support, counselling & mental health first aid services to all those affected by such misuse.

To provide all such services, free of charge, to children, young people and families including those affected by such misuse.

To actively encourage the participation of children and young people in all areas of our service provision.

The purpose of this policy statement is:

- to protect children and young people who receive Evolves services from harm. This includes the children of adults who use our services.
- to provide staff and volunteers, as well as children and young people and their families, with the overarching principles that guide our approach to child protection. This policy applies to anyone working on behalf of Evolve, including senior managers and the board of trustees, paid staff, volunteers, sessional workers, agency staff and students.

Legal framework

This policy has been drawn up based on legislation, policy and guidance that seeks to protect children in England & Wales. A summary of the key legislation and guidance is available from 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 children is paramount in all the work we do and in all the decisions we take
- working in partnership with children, young people, their parents, carers and other agencies is essential in promoting young people's welfare
- all children, 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
- some children are additionally vulnerable because of the impact of previous experiences, their level of dependency, communication needs or other issues
- extra safeguards may be needed to keep children who are additionally vulnerable safe from abuse

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

- valuing, listening to and respecting them
- appointing a nominated child protection lead for children and young people, a deputy and a lead trustee/board member for safeguarding
- adopting child protection and safeguarding best practice through our policies, procedures and code of conduct for staff and volunteers
- developing and implementing an effective online safety policy and related procedures
- 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, procedures and behaviour codes confidently and competently recruiting and selecting staff and volunteers safely, ensuring all necessary checks are made
- recording and storing and using information professionally and securely, in line with data protection legislation and guidance [more information about this is available from the Information Commissioner's Office: ico.org.uk/fororganisations]
- sharing information about safeguarding and good practice with children and their families via leaflets, posters, group work and one-to-one discussions
- making sure that children, young people and their families know where to go for help if they have a concern

- using our safeguarding and child protection 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 • creating and maintaining 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
- 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

Contact Details:

Nominated child protection lead

Name: Alison Hodgson

Phone/email: 07449477737 evolve.ah@outlook.com

Deputy child protection lead

Name: Esther Maple

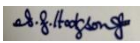
Phone/email: 07743688507 em@wirralgirls.co.uk

Trustee lead for safeguarding and child protection

Name: Nancy Boyle

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We are committed to reviewing our policy and good practice annually. This policy was last reviewed on: 1st September 2023

Signed: 

Date: 1st September 2023

References, internet links and further sources of information

Working together to Safeguard Children – (A guide to inter-agency working to safeguard and promote the welfare of children.) Available to download at www.everychildmatters.gov.uk

What to do if you are worried a child is being abused. Available to download at www.everychildmatters.gov.uk

Internet Links

www.everychildmatters.org.uk

www.ceop.gov.uk

www.childline.org.uk

www.thinkuknow.co.uk

www.ceop.gov.uk/reportabuse/index.asp

For Children and Young People

www.there4me.com

www.childline.org.uk/pages/yourplace.aspx

Contacts

Child Line 0800 1111

NSPCC 0808 800 5000

Liverpool Social Services (Careline) 0151 233 3800

Wirral Integrated Front Door on 0151 606 2008 9am – 5pm Monday to Friday

Outside of these hours call 0151 677 6557

In an emergency always dial 999