

THE CONTACT HUB

SAFEGUARDING POLICY



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Introduction

The Mission Statement of the National Association of Child Contact Centres (NACCC)

says that the organisation aims to: “Keep children in touch with parents following separation”.

NACCC believe that it is always unacceptable for a child or young person to experience

abuse of any kind and recognises it has a responsibility in safeguarding the welfare of all

children and young people by being committed to promoting a practice that protects them.

NACCC recognises that:

- The welfare of the child is paramount.
- All children regardless of age, gender, disability, racial heritage, religious belief, sexual orientation or identity have the right to equal protection from all types of harm and abuse.
- Working in partnership with children, parents, carers, and other agencies is essential in promoting children’s welfare.

Accountability

Copies of this policy and its accompanying Statement of Commitment will be made available to all of Littlehampton Child Contact Centre's volunteers. They will be required to

read this policy and then sign and return the Statement of Commitment.

Basic Principles

- 1) The Contact Hub UK (TCH) believes that children and young people need safe environments in which they can grow and develop in confidence.
- 2) TCH recognises that organisations working with and supporting children and young people have a duty to keep them safe.
- 3) TCH places Safeguarding children and young people and Child Protection at the centre of its activities.
- 4) TCH is committed to, and working towards, the objectives as defined in the document:

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/419595/

Working_Together_to_Safeguard_Children.pdf

and expects its member centres to do the same.

- 5) TCH believes that children and young people should not be exposed to negligence or avoidable risks.

- 6) TCH recognises that Safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children are emotive

issues that need to be handled both sensitively and carefully.





7) TCH is committed to creating and implementing policies and procedures that will ensure that where risks need to be taken regarding children and young people they are both calculated and carefully managed.

8) TCH recognises the difference between Child Protection and Safeguarding namely:

- Child Protection is the process of protecting individual children identified as either suffering or likely to suffer significant harm as a result of abuse or neglect. (“Working Together... 2015”) It involves recognising signs and symptoms of physical, sexual or emotional abuse or neglect and acting upon them.

- Safeguarding involves keeping children and young people safe from a much wider range of potential dangers and/or harm. It looks at preventative action rather than just reactive action.

9) TCH is committed to ensuring that all its volunteers and Management Committee are aware of, kept up to date with, and operate in accordance with, good practice in relation to Safeguarding and Child Protection. This will mean that they will have the ability to recognise, respond to, report, record and refer issues of Safeguarding and Child Protection.

Intentions

The Contact Hub will have one named person who will be responsible for ensuring that the Policy and its processes are implemented and adhered to.

This person is the Co-ordinator: Maddi P.

TCH will also have one member of its Management Committee who will have specific responsibilities for all matters referring to Safeguarding and Child Protection. This person is: Jazz Vidal.

Recruitment

See separate Recruitment and DBS Policies.

Providing Advice and Support

TCH will ensure that Safeguarding is an on-going item in all supervision. Failure to follow, or non-compliance with, recognised procedures and good practice in relation to Safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children by TCH's volunteers and staff will generate support, information and training.

Distribution of TCH's Safeguarding Policy

Copies of this policy will be:

- made available to all staff & volunteers
- made available to those on TCH's Management Committee
- placed on TCH's website

Review of TCH's Safeguarding Policy

This will take place annually. Additional changes to take account of new legislation and practice directions will also be made as and when required.

Reviewed: March 2022

Approved: April 2022