

Student Hubs Adults at Risk of Harm Safeguarding Policy

Our adults at risk of harm safeguarding policy

This policy applies to all staff, including senior managers and the board of trustees, paid staff, volunteers and sessional workers, agency staff, interns, students or anyone working on behalf of Student Hubs.

This policy applies to adults (individuals aged 18 years or over) who:

- Have needs for care and support (whether or not the local authority is meeting any of those needs) and;
- Are experiencing, or is at risk of, abuse or neglect, and;
- As a result of those care and support needs, are unable to protect themselves from either the risk of, or the experience of, abuse or neglect ([The Care Act, 2014](#))

A young adult is anyone aged 18-24 and they will also be referenced in this policy and relevant procedures.

The purpose of this policy:

- To protect adults at risk of harm who participate in Student Hubs activities.
- To provide staff and volunteers with the overarching principles that guide our approach to protecting adults (and young adults) at risk of harm.

Student Hubs believes that an adult at risk of harm should never experience abuse of any kind. We have a responsibility to promote the welfare of all adults at risk and to keep them safe. We are committed to practice in a way that protects them.

Legal Framework

This policy has been drawn up on the basis of law and guidance that seeks to protect adults at risk, namely:

- NHS and Community Care Act 1990
- Public interest Disclosure Act 1998
- Human Rights Act 1998 (including the 2004/05 Amendments)
- Sexual Offences Act 2003
- Mental Capacity Act 2005
- Safeguarding Vulnerable Groups Act 2006
- Mental Health Act 2007

Student Hubs is a registered charity in England and Wales, number 1122328.

Strategic Partners:

- Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards (2009, introduced in Mental Capacity Act 05)
- The Equality Act 2010
- Protection of Freedoms Act 2012
- Disclosure & Barring Service 2013
- The Care Act 2014
- Making Safeguarding Personal Guide 2014
- General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR) 2018
- Data Protection Act 2018
- The [Ann Craft Trust](#) and [AgeUK Factsheets](#)

This policy should be read alongside our policies and procedures on:

- Recruitment, induction and training, including of ex-offenders
- Role of the designated safeguarding officer
- Dealing with disclosures and concerns about a vulnerable adult
- Recording and information sharing
- Code of conduct for staff and volunteers
- Safer recruitment
- Complaints against staff/volunteers policy (including managing complaints)
- Complaints against other vulnerable adults
- Whistleblowing
- Health & Safety

We recognise that:

- The welfare of the adult at risk is paramount.
- All adults at risk, regardless of age, ability or disability, gender, racial heritage, religious belief, ethnic origin, sexual orientation/identity, marital or gender status have a right to equal protection from all types of harm or abuse.
- Some adults are additionally at risk because of the impact of previous experiences, their level of dependency, communication needs or other issues. We also recognise that ability and disability can change over time.
- Working in partnership with adults at risk, carers and other agencies is essential in promoting their welfare. Student Hubs recognises the role and responsibilities of the statutory agencies in safeguarding adults and is committed to complying with procedures of the Local Safeguarding Adults Boards.

In relation to young adults specifically, we also recognise that:

- Young people don't stop needing safeguards when they reach their 18th birthday - their legal status might change but independence is a gradual process that starts at birth and goes on well into adulthood.
- New challenges arise when a young person enters the adult world. This is an exciting time for anyone but creates the potential for new risks and new areas of vulnerability. Many young people are moving away from home for the first time or starting work or volunteer placements. Most are starting to take full control of their finances, and many are starting relationships with adult partners. Some are becoming parents.
- Service providers continue to have a duty of care to the young people that use their services, even after those young people are 18. However, young people who may

have previously received health or local authority services (e.g. those who have been 'in care' or 'looked after' by a local authority) may find that on attaining 18 years, these services are withdrawn and they are in danger of 'falling through the net' and of being denied services they require on an ongoing basis.

We will seek to keep adults at risk of harm safe by:

- Valuing them, listening to and respecting them, keeping in mind [the six principles of adult safeguarding](#).
- Appointing a Designated Safeguarding Officer (DSO) for adults at risk, a deputy DSO and a lead trustee board member responsible for safeguarding.
- Adopting adults at risk protection and safeguarding practices through procedures and a code of conduct for staff and volunteers (see above), including our “recognise, respond, record, report and refer” method.
- Providing effective management for staff and volunteers through supervision, support, training and quality assurance measures.
- Recruiting staff and volunteers safely, ensuring all necessary checks are made.
- Recording and storing information professionally and securely.
- Sharing information about safeguarding and good practice with our community partners, staff and volunteers via training, one-to-one discussions and information updates.
- Using our safeguarding procedures to share concerns and relevant information with agencies who need to know, and involving adults at risk, parents, families and carers appropriately.
 - Abiding by the Care Act's (2014) “**Making Safeguarding Personal**” measures meaning wherever possible Student Hubs will discuss safeguarding concerns with the adult to get their view of what they would like to happen and keep them involved in the safeguarding process, seeking their consent to share information outside of Student Hubs where necessary.
 - In the case that the adult is at risk of significant harm, we may override their consent to share information in order to keep them safe. This process is outlined in the [Student Hubs procedure for adults at possible risk of harm](#).
- Ensuring that we have effective complaints and whistleblowing measures in place.
- Ensuring that we provide a safe physical environment for our vulnerable adults, staff and volunteers, by applying health and safety measures in accordance with the law and regulatory guidance.

Contact details

Designated Safeguarding Officer (DSO)

Sophie Ford

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Deputy DSO

Simran Dhanjal

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Lead Trustee board member for safeguarding

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CEOP

www.ceop.police.uk

NSPCC Helpline

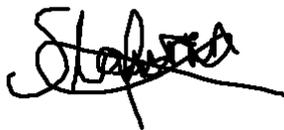
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We are committed to reviewing our policy and good practice annually.

This policy was last reviewed on 27 11 2020.

This policy should next be reviewed by 27 11 2021.

Signed:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Sophie Ford".

Sophie Ford, Designated Safeguarding Officer

27/11/2020