

# Safeguarding Children Policy and Procedure



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This Safeguarding Children Policy and Procedure is designed to ensure the protection and well-being of children under the care and supervision of Lilac Alliance. It is in compliance with relevant Ofsted regulations, Keeping Children Safe guidance, and other applicable legislation.

## 1. Policy Statement:

Lilac Alliance is committed to providing a safe and secure environment for children. This policy outlines our commitment to safeguarding children from harm and promoting their welfare.

## 2. Definitions:

- Child: Anyone under the age of 18 years.
- Safeguarding: Protecting children from maltreatment, ensuring their health and well-being, and promoting safe and effective care.
- Child Protection: The process of protecting children from abuse or neglect.

## 3. Principles:

- All children have the right to be protected from harm, abuse, and neglect.
- The welfare of the child is the paramount consideration.
- All staff, volunteers, and stakeholders have a responsibility to safeguard children.

## 4. Key Topics:

### 4.1. Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL):

- Appoint a DSL responsible for coordinating and overseeing safeguarding procedures.
- Ensure the DSL receives appropriate training.

### 4.2. Recruitment and Training:

- Implement rigorous recruitment procedures, including background checks and reference checks, for staff, volunteers, and contractors.
- Provide comprehensive safeguarding training for all personnel.
- Ensure that staff are aware of the signs and indicators of abuse and neglect.

### 4.3. Risk Assessment:

- Conduct regular risk assessments to identify potential risks to children.
- Develop strategies to mitigate identified risks.

### 4.4. Reporting Concerns:

- Establish clear reporting procedures for staff to report any concerns of abuse or neglect.
- Ensure that concerns are reported promptly to the DSL.

### 4.5. Confidentiality:

- Maintain strict confidentiality regarding all safeguarding concerns and investigations.
- Share information on a need-to-know basis while complying with data protection laws.

### 4.6. Communication:

- Promote open and effective communication with children.
- Ensure children feel safe reporting concerns.
- Engage with parents, guardians, and carers to keep them informed of any concerns and actions taken.

### 4.7. Child Protection Investigations:

- Cooperate fully with child protection investigations carried out by relevant authorities.
- Provide all necessary information and support to these investigations.

### 4.8. Recording and Documentation:

- Maintain detailed records of all safeguarding concerns, reports, and actions taken.
- Ensure that records are securely stored and accessible only to authorized personnel.

### 4.9. Training and Awareness:

- Provide ongoing training and awareness programs to staff and volunteers.
- Educate children about safeguarding and their rights.

### 4.10. Compliance:

- Ensure that all policies and practices related to safeguarding children are in compliance with relevant Ofsted regulations and Keeping Children Safe guidance.

### 4.11. Continuous Improvement:

- Regularly review and update this policy and related procedures to reflect changes in legislation and best practices.
- Monitor and evaluate the effectiveness of our safeguarding efforts.

### 4.12. Review and Audit:

- Regularly review and audit our safeguarding procedures to ensure their continued effectiveness and compliance with changing circumstances, regulations, and best practices.

### 4.13. Safeguarding Design:

- Ensure that the physical environment and resources are designed to protect children from harm and promote their well-being.

Lilac Alliance is dedicated to safeguarding children, and this policy and procedure serve as the foundation for our commitment to protecting the well-being of children in our care.