

Curious Roots Consulting: Safeguarding & Ethical Practice Statement

Last updated: 15 July 2025

At Curious Roots Consulting, safeguarding and ethical integrity are core to how we work. This statement outlines the principles and practices that guide our evaluation and engagement activities, particularly when working with children, young people, or vulnerable adults.

1. Safeguarding Commitments

Curious Roots Consulting is committed to:

- Creating a safe, respectful, and inclusive environment for all participants
- Following all relevant UK safeguarding laws and best practice guidance
- Maintaining confidentiality and protecting personal data in line with GDPR
- Reporting any concerns or disclosures to the appropriate safeguarding lead or authority

DBS Certification:

Clare Meakin, Lead Consultant, holds a current Enhanced DBS Certificate and is registered on the DBS Update Service. Details can be provided upon request for verification.

Working with Partners:

Where Curious Roots is commissioned by a third party (e.g. museums, charities, schools), their safeguarding policies will be followed in conjunction with this statement. We will always ensure clear safeguarding lines of communication for each project.

2. Ethical Evaluation Practice

Our work is grounded in ethical principles of:

- **Voluntary participation:** All participation is informed, consensual, and clearly explained
- **Transparency:** Participants are told how their data will be used, stored, and shared
- **Anonymity and confidentiality:** Identities are protected unless explicit consent is given
- **Respect and dignity:** We approach every individual with empathy and without judgement
- **Accessibility:** We take care to ensure our processes are inclusive and trauma-aware

We recognise the importance of power dynamics in evaluation and strive to ensure that participants' voices are not only heard, but valued.

3. Concerns or Complaints

If any participant, partner, or stakeholder has a concern or complaint about safeguarding or ethical practice, they are encouraged to contact:

Clare Meakin

Lead Consultant, Curious Roots Consulting

Email: clare@curiousrootsconsulting.com

If the concern relates to a commissioned project, it may also be referred to the lead organisation's safeguarding officer.

Curious Roots Consulting believes that ethical practice is not a tick-box exercise, but an ongoing commitment to listening, learning, and doing better.