Kathryn Webb Therapy



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Safeguarding policy 2025 - 2026

Therapist Name: Kathryn Webb

Role: Independent Counsellor, therapist and advisory teacher **Location:** United Kingdom (with in person and online services)

Purpose of This Policy

This policy outlines how I protect the wellbeing, safety, and rights of all clients, including children, young people, and adults, in accordance with UK safeguarding legislation (using 2025 specifications). It also ensures that I practise ethically and responsibly, whether sessions are delivered online or face to face.

Commitment to Safeguarding

- I am committed to creating a safe, supportive, and non-judgemental space for all clients.
- I recognise that safeguarding is everyone's responsibility and take it seriously.
- I adhere to the BACP Ethical Framework and follow UK government safeguarding legislation, including the Children Act 1989/2004, the Care Act 2014, and Keeping Children Safe in Education (KCSIE 2025).
- In our contracting we will explore your support network and who is to be contacted in case of emergency.

Definitions

Safeguarding: Protecting people's health, wellbeing, and human rights, and enabling them to live free from harm, abuse, and neglect.

Child: Anyone under the age of 18.

Adult at risk: A person aged 18+ who is vulnerable due to age, disability, illness, or other circumstance.

Types of Harm

I am vigilant to signs of:

- Physical, emotional, sexual abuse
- Neglect or self-neglect
- Domestic abuse
- Financial exploitation

Online abuse or grooming

Procedures for Managing Concerns

If I believe a client or someone they disclose information about is at risk of serious harm:

- I will discuss the concern with the client (where and if appropriate).
- I will make a safeguarding referral to local authorities or relevant services.
- I may break confidentiality if someone is at immediate risk, following GDPR and data protection rules.

Record Keeping

- Concerns are documented clearly, securely, and in line with GDPR.
- Records are factual, dated, and kept confidential.

Working with Children and Young People

- I obtain parental or guardian consent (unless the young person is Gillick competent).
- Sessions with minors are conducted with age-appropriate methods.
- Safeguarding concerns involving children will always be acted upon.

Online Therapy Considerations

- Online sessions use secure, encrypted platforms (Eg: Zoom, Whatsapp).
- I confirm the client's location at the start of each session, and who is in the vicinity.
- I have protocols in place if a safeguarding incident arises during an online session.

Training and Supervision

- I complete annual safeguarding training.
- I engage in regular clinical supervision, where safeguarding matters are reviewed when necessary in line with the BACP requirements.
- I am DBS checked.

I care deeply about your safety. If I ever believe you - or someone you mention - is in danger, I may need to share this with a trusted authority to get help. I will always aim to speak with you first, and I'll keep what you share private unless someone is at serious risk.

Review Date: April 2026

Next Review Due: April 2027

For questions or concerns about this policy, please feel free to discuss it with me directly.