



Safeguarding policy statement

September 2024

The purpose and scope of this policy statement is:

- to protect children and young people who receive services from Tracy Dean Art Therapy from harm. This includes the children of adults who use the services
- to provide staff and volunteers, as well as children and young people and their families, with the overarching principles that guide our approach to child protection.

Legal framework

This policy has been drawn up on the basis of legislation, policy and guidance that seeks to protect children in the United Kingdom. A summary of the key legislation and guidance is available from nspcc.org.uk/childprotection.

I believe that:

- children and young people should never experience abuse of any kind
- I have a responsibility to promote the welfare of all children and young people, to keep them safe and to practise in a way that protects them.

I recognise that:

- the welfare of children is paramount in all the work I do and in all the decisions I take
- working in partnership with children, young people, their parents, carers and other agencies is essential in promoting young people's welfare
- all children, regardless of age, disability, gender reassignment, race, religion or belief, sex, or sexual orientation have an equal right to protection from all types of harm or abuse
- some children are additionally vulnerable because of the impact of previous experiences, their level of dependency, communication needs or other issues
- extra safeguards may be needed to keep children who are additionally vulnerable safe from abuse.

I will seek to keep children and young people safe by:

- valuing, listening to and respecting them
- adopting child protection and safeguarding best practice through my policies, procedures and code of conduct
- developing and implementing an effective online safety policy and related procedures

- ensuring I maintain supervision, support, training and quality assurance measures so that I know about and follow policies, procedures and behaviour codes confidently and competently
- recording, storing and using information professionally and securely, in line with data protection legislation and guidance [more information about this is available from the Information Commissioner's Office: ico.org.uk/fororganisations]
- sharing information about safeguarding and good practice with children and their families via leaflets, posters, group work and one-to-one discussions
- making sure that children, young people and their families know where to go for help if they have a concern
- using safeguarding and child protection procedures to share concerns and relevant information with agencies who need to know, and involving children, young people, parents, families and carers appropriately
- creating and maintaining an anti-bullying environment and ensuring that I have a procedure to help us deal effectively with any bullying that does arise
- ensuring that I have effective complaints and whistleblowing measures in place
- ensuring that I provide a safe physical environment for our children, young people, staff and volunteers, by applying health and safety measures in accordance with the law and regulatory guidance
- building a safeguarding culture where staff and volunteers, children, young people and their families, treat each other with respect and are comfortable about sharing concerns.

Complaints

If you have a complaint or concern against Tracy Dean and feel you are unable to speak to Tracy or her clinical supervisor directly, then you may contact HCPC who have a complaints procedure. Information can be accessed via the HCPC website: www.hcpc-uk.org/standards/standards-of-conduct-performance-and-ethics/

Contact details

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Signed:  Date: 5.9.2024