**Safeguarding**

Kate Whyatt trading as *Wild as Well* is committed to the safety and wellbeing of our staff and participants and will work to ensure a safe environment for anyone working on site and off site. We will ensure that our Safeguarding practice reflects government guidance, reflects statutory responsibilities and best practice.

Kate Whyatt trading as *Wild as Well* recognises the importance of inter-agency working on issues of safeguarding vulnerable adults and will work alongside partner organisations to communicate and share relevant information regarding any participants where the is concern or a disclosure made to any member of our staff.

We also recognise the vulnerability of facilitators and volunteers to allegations made against them and will maintain sensible working practices to protect participants, facilitators and volunteers from harm.

**The Policy's purpose is to:**

Keep our participants safe from harm.

Expose any abuse or misconduct occurring where any participant, volunteer or facilitator is involved.

Provide staff with guidance on procedures to adopt if they think that a vulnerable person may be experiencing or at risk or harm and protect staff from unnecessary risk regarding allegations of abuse.

Uphold relevant Legislation.

Kate Whyatt trading as *Wild as Well* **commits to:**

* Appointing a designated safeguarding lead (DSL) within the organisation before we begin face to face work with participants. As a sole trader, Kate Whyatt fulfils the DSL role.
* Safe recruitment practices being used. As a sole trader, Kate Whyatt has a full, up-to-date Enhanced Disclosure and Barring Service certificate.
* At times when Kate Whyatt trading as *Wild as Well* collaborates with other sole traders or organisations, Kate Whyatt will ensure where relevant, that all staff have appropriate and up-to-date safeguarding training and new staff have the appropriate induction to policies and procedures.
* Safe working practices being adopted include (but not exclusive to); Staff and volunteers with an Enhanced DBS check will be included in the sessions only if vulnerable adults are participating.
* Report on any information or disclosure made to us or coming to our attention in relation to the safety and wellbeing of a participant who is vulnerable. If this involves a vulnerable adult then this will be made to either Nottingham City Council or Nottinghamshire County Council in accordance with Local Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) procedures.  We will work with our partner organisations to communicate appropriately regarding any issues arising. Where a disclosure has been made we will follow our procedures to communicate this to the relevant parties with an awareness of confidentiality issues.  These follow national protocol on reporting disclosures of abuse.
* Ensure that all incidents and any disclosures are recorded in a systematic manner and reviewed annually.
* Review our Safeguarding Policy annually and in line with government policy.

(*Last reviewed November 2023)*