



## **Cumbria Family Support**

# **Safeguarding Policy & Procedure Children and Young People**

Cumbria Family Support Ltd,

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[www.cumbriafamilysupport.org.uk](http://www.cumbriafamilysupport.org.uk)

**At Cumbria Family Support working with children and their families is at the heart of all we do.**

**We specialise in early preventative support by:**

- **Volunteer befriending**
- **Modelling skills for positive parenting**
- **Helping children and their families have a voice**
- **Practical support**

**We also provide safe supportive spaces for non-resident parents to have contact with their children.**

**The purpose of this policy statement is:**

- To protect children and young people who receive Cumbria Family Support's services.
- To provide parents/carers, staff and volunteers with the overarching principles that guide our approach to child protection.

(This policy statement applies to anyone working on behalf of Cumbria Family Support, including the board of Trustees, paid staff, student placements and volunteers).

## **Legal framework**

This policy has been drawn up based on legislation, policy and guidance that seeks to protect children in England.

Key legislation includes:

- Children Act 1989
- Children Act 2004
- Children and Social Work Act 2017

[Working together to safeguard children 2023: statutory guidance](#)

We also operate within the guidelines and principles of Cumbria Child Safeguarding Partnership [Guidance and Resources | Cumbria Safeguarding Children Partnership](#)

## Supporting documents

This policy statement should be read alongside the following related documents:

### Safeguarding procedure

- Role description for the Designated Safeguarding Lead (via CSCP)
- Dealing with disclosures and concerns about a child or young person (via CSCP)
- Procedure to follow when raising safeguarding concerns (Appendix 1)
- Managing allegations against staff and volunteers' policy (CFS)
- Online safety (CSCP)

### Recruitment/ Induction

- Safer recruitment protocol (CSCP)
- Employee handbook (CFS)
- Volunteer policy (CFS)

### Managing information

- Confidentiality and information sharing policy (CFS)
- Records retention policy (CFS)
- Photography and sharing images guidance (CSCP)

### Associated policies

- Whistleblowing policy (CFS)
- Health and Safety policy (CFS)
- Training policy (CFS)
- Bullying and Harassment policy (CFS)
- Driving policy (CFS)

## We believe that:

- The welfare of the child is paramount (Children Act 2004)
- Children and young people should never experience abuse of any kind.
- We have a responsibility to promote the welfare of all children and young people, to keep them safe and to behave in a way that protects them.
- Safeguarding is the responsibility of everyone involved in Cumbria Family Support.

## We recognise that:

- All children, regardless of age, disability, gender reassignment, race, religion or belief, sex or sexual orientation have a right to equal 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.
- Working in partnership with children, young people, their parents, carers, and other agencies is essential in promoting young people's welfare.

## **We will seek to keep children and young people safe by:**

- Valuing, listening to and respecting them.
- Appointing a nominated child protection lead for children and young people, a deputy and a lead trustee for safeguarding.
- Adopting child protection and safeguarding best practice through our policies, procedures and code of conduct for staff and volunteers.
- Following effective online safety policy and related procedures.
- Providing effective management for staff and volunteers through supervision, support, training and quality assurance measures so that all staff and volunteers know about and follow our policies, procedures and behaviour codes confidently and competently.
- Recruiting and selecting staff and volunteers safely, ensuring all necessary checks are made.
- Recording and storing and using information professionally and securely, in line with data protection legislation and guidance.
- 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.
- Sharing concerns and relevant information with agencies who need to know, and involving children, young people, parents, families and carers appropriately.
- Following our procedures to manage any allegations against staff and volunteers appropriately.
- Having an anti-bullying culture, ensuring we adhere to our policies to help us deal effectively with any bullying that does arise.
- Ensuring that we have effective complaints and whistleblowing measures in place.
- Having a learning culture where our staff and volunteers are supported to reflect on their practice and learn from Child Safeguarding Practice Reviews and Serious Case Reviews.
- Ensuring we have a safeguarding culture where staff and volunteers, children, young people and their families, treat each other with respect and are comfortable about sharing concerns.

## Contact details

### Designated Safeguarding Lead

Name: Lynsey Buckle, Chief Officer

Phone/email: 07818 277422 / [lynsey@cumbriafamilysupport.org.uk](mailto:lynsey@cumbriafamilysupport.org.uk)

### Deputy Safeguarding Lead

Name: Catherine Hodgeon, Team Leader

Phone/email: 07594 863466 / [catherine@cumbriafamilysupport.org.uk](mailto:catherine@cumbriafamilysupport.org.uk)

### Trustee Lead for Safeguarding

Name: Walter McCulloch

Phone/email: 01768 593102 / [admin@cumbriafamilysupport.org.uk](mailto:admin@cumbriafamilysupport.org.uk)

[If you are concerned that a child is in an emergency situation you should contact the police on 999.](#)

If you have urgent concerns for a child, or suspect that a child has been abused in anyway and needs an urgent response please call the relevant Safeguarding Hub.

### **Westmorland and Furness Safeguarding Hub**

Telephone: 0300 373 2724

### **Cumberland Safeguarding Hub**

Telephone: 0333 240 1727

NSPCC Helpline 0808 800 5000

**We are committed to reviewing our policy and good practice annually.**

This policy was last reviewed on 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2024.