
Child Protection Policy



August 2022

Lincolnshire Youth Mission Ltd Child Protection Policy

Our child protection policy

This policy should be read alongside LYM's other policies and procedures.

The policy and the procedures that it underpins apply to all staff, including senior managers and the board of trustees, paid staff, volunteers and sessional workers, agency staff, students and anyone working on behalf of Lincolnshire Youth Mission Ltd

Purpose of policy

- To protect children and young people who receive LYM's services. This includes the children of adults who use our services.
- To provide staff and volunteers with the overarching principles that guide our approach to child protection.

Lincolnshire Youth Mission Ltd believes that a child or young person should never experience abuse of any kind. We have a responsibility to promote the welfare of all children and young people and to keep them safe. We are committed to operate in a way that protects them.

Legal framework:

This policy has been drawn up on the basis of law and guidance that seeks to protect children, namely:

- Children Act 1989.
- United Convention of the Rights of the Child 1991.
- Data Protection Act 1990
- The General Data Protection Regulation (the "GDPR") of 2018.
- Human Rights Act 1998.
- Sexual Offences Act 2003.
- Children ACT 2004.
- Safeguarding Vulnerable Groups Act 2006.
- Protection of Freedoms Act 2012.
- Children and Families Act 2014.
- Special educational needs and disability (SEND) code of practise: 0 to 25 years – Statutory guidance for organisations which work with and support children and young people who have special educational needs or disabilities; HM Government 2014.
- Information sharing: Advice for practitioners providing safeguarding services to children, young people, parents and carers: HM Government 2015.
- Working together to safeguard children: a guide to inter-agency working to safeguard and promote the welfare of children: HM Government 2015.

We recognise that:

- The welfare of the child is paramount, as enshrined in the Children Act 1989.
- All children, regardless of age, disability, gender, racial heritage, religious belief, sexual orientation or identity, 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 help to keep children and young people safe by:

- Valuing them, listening to and respecting them.
- The appointment of a Designated Safeguarding Officer (DSO) for children and young people, a deputy and a leading Board Member for Safeguarding.
- Adopting Child Protection and safeguarding practises through procedures and a code of conduct for staff and volunteers.
- Developing and implementing an effective E-safety policy and related procedures.
- Providing effective management for staff and volunteers through supervision, support, training and quality assurance measures.
- Recruiting staff and volunteers, and trustees safely, ensuring all necessary checks are made.
- Recording and storing information professionally and securely, and sharing information about safeguarding and good practise with children, their families, staff, volunteers and trustees via leaflets, posters and one-to-one discussions.
- Using our Safeguarding procedures to share concerns and relevant information with agencies who need to know, and involving children, young people, parents, families and carers appropriately.
- Using our procedures to manage any allegations against staff, volunteers or trustees appropriately.
- Creating and maintaining an anti-bullying environment and ensuring that we have a policy and procedure to help us deal effectively with any bullying that does arise.
- Ensuring that we have effective complaints and whistleblowing measures in place.
- Ensuring that we 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.

Contact details

LYM Designated Safeguarding Officer (DSO) is the Melanie Weatherley the LYM Chair. Mrs Weatherley can be contacted directly through the LYM website, or if the matter is urgent by telephoning 07816 845522

NOTE:

Each LYM Project has its own designated Safeguarding Officer and their contact details will be provided to all Staff and Volunteers during their initial Safeguarding Training.

All LYM Staff and Volunteers are required to attend LYM – Specific Safeguarding Training.