

Safeguarding Policy Statement

Lighthouse Educational Society

Reg Charity 1107551

Reviewed on 01.09.2025

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Prepared Based on the KCSIE:

1.

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/1181962/Keeping_children_safe_in_education_2023_-_part_one.pdf

1. Introduction

Safeguarding is at the heart of all our work with children, young people and adults at risk. Lighthouse Educational Society has a duty to ensure that it makes arrangements to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and young people, and to protect adults at risk from abuse or the risk of abuse. The legislation and guidance relevant to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and adults at risk includes the following: The Children and Social Work Act (2017), The Children Act 1989 and 2004, Working Together to Safeguard Children (2015), No Secrets (2000), The Crime and Disorder Act (1998), The Health and Social Care Act (2008) and the Care Act (2014).

2. Scope of the Policy

The policy applies to any member of staff, volunteer, or trustee working directly or indirectly with children, young people, or adults at risk. Children, young people, adults at risk and parents/carers are informed of the policy as appropriate. The policy is reviewed annually or when legislation changes.

3. Purpose of this Policy and Procedure

This policy sets out how Lighthouse Educational Society implements safeguarding for children, young people, and adults at risk. Our aim is to: - Support safeguarding in practice by defining abuse and clear reporting actions. - Ensure all staff work to the same policy and procedure. - Establish accountability in safeguarding processes. - Clarify roles and responsibilities. - Outline organisational support for effective safeguarding practice.

4. Definitions

Child/Young Person: Anyone under the age of 18.

Adult at Risk: Anyone 18 or over who is in need of community care services due to mental or other disability, age or illness, and who is unable to care for or protect themselves from significant harm or exploitation.

5. Objectives

- Maintain a safe organisational ethos and environment.
- Have safe processes for working with service users.
- Ensure safe information handling.
- Employ safe recruitment practices and continuous staff development.

6. Types of Abuse

Definitions include physical abuse, emotional abuse, sexual abuse, neglect, bullying (including cyberbullying),

self-harm, Female Genital Mutilation (FGM), domestic violence, forced marriage, internet harm, trafficking, and child criminal exploitation.

7. Reporting Procedures

Clear steps for responding to concerns about children or adults at risk, including immediate recording, discussion with the DSL/DDSL, and referral to Croydon safeguarding authorities.

8. Croydon Local Safeguarding Contacts

- **Croydon LADO (Local Authority Designated Officer):** 020 8726 6000 ext. 84331 (Mon-Fri 9:00-17:00) | Email: lado@croydon.gov.uk
- **Out of Hours Emergency Duty Team:** 020 8726 6400
- **Croydon Police Child Abuse Investigation Team:** 101 (non-emergency) or 999 (emergency)
- **Croydon Safeguarding Children Partnership (CSCP):**
<https://www.croydon.gov.uk/children-young-people-and-families/childrens-social-care/safeguarding-children>
Email: childreferrals@croydon.gov.uk | Tel: 020 8726 6400 (24 hours)

9. Roles and Responsibilities

Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL): HM Hatipoglu (Croydon Branch Director)

Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead (DDSL): Bahar Kaya

Both are responsible for safeguarding processes, liaison with external agencies, and ensuring that all staff comply with safeguarding procedures.

10. Recruitment and Training

- All staff and volunteers in direct contact with children undergo enhanced DBS checks.
- At least two references are required for all safeguarding roles.
- Regular safeguarding training and policy updates are provided.

11. Information Sharing

Information is shared on a need-to-know basis, with consent sought wherever possible, in line with Croydon safeguarding procedures and the Data Protection Act.

12. Dispute Resolution

Any disagreement between Lighthouse Educational Society and Croydon safeguarding services will be escalated following the CSCP escalation policy.
