

HACKENTHORPE HALL NURSERY

POLICY – HOW WE SAFEGUARD ADULTS (September 2022)

INTRODUCTION TO ADULT SAFEGUARDING

The legal and policy basis for responding to concerns regarding the safeguarding and welfare of adults is different from that for children

Any safeguarding incident or concern relating to a person of 18 years and over, even if still at school, should be dealt with under the requirements of the 2014 Care Act

What does Safeguarding Adults Mean?

Safeguarding adults means protecting a person's right to live in safety, free from abuse and neglect. An adult at risk is any person over 18 years who is at risk of abuse or neglect because of their need for care or support.

Main Forms of Abuse of Adults

The examples given below are not exhaustive

Physical Abuse e.g., hitting, slapping, pushing, kicking, force feeding, misuse of medication, restraint or inappropriate sanctions

Emotional Abuse e.g., intimidation, humiliation, harassment, enforced social isolation, blaming, controlling and threats

Domestic Abuse and Domestic Violence Any behaviour between two or more adults aged 16 or over that can include; coercive control (a pattern of intimidation, degradation, isolation and control with the use or threat of physical or sexual violence), psychological abuse, emotional abuse, physical abuse and sexual abuse, harassment and stalking. Includes Honour Based Violence and Forced Marriage

Sexual Abuse e.g., forcing an adult to do sexual acts they do not want or cannot consent to (including rape, sexual assault)

Neglect and Acts of Omission e.g., any action that restricts choice, causes harm or isolates people for example not supporting them to get washed and dressed or accessing appropriate health care. Can include self-neglect

Financial, Economic or Material Abuse e.g., taking money or anything of value from an adult, withholding funds, limiting access to money and material items, controlling finances, restricting access to bank accounts, constrictive budgeting.

Discriminatory Abuse It is a criminal offence to bully someone who is disabled or 'different' (disability or other hate crime)

Mate Crime This is a form of hate crime that involves people pretending to be a friend of the adult so that they can get control of their money, steal their food, hurt or intimidate the adult, etc.

Organisational or Institutional Abuse e.g., inappropriate or poor care, misuse of medication, inappropriate restraint, denial of visitors, lack of flexibility and choice, controlling behaviours between staff and service users

Modern Slavery/Human Trafficking Forcing or tricking an adult into slavery, sexual exploitation, working unpaid as a domestic slave.

Exploitation by Radicalisers Targeting an adult with care needs or who is isolated to involve them in terrorism. The adult may be persuaded or bullied into actions that may cause harm to themselves or others

Online or Digital Abuse The use of the internet and devices to perpetrate abuse, e.g., harassment, including unsolicited sharing of images, 'revenge porn', 'cyberflashing', using online devices to perpetrate domestic abuse, threatening messages, tracking location.

Procedure for Responding to Safeguarding Concerns Relating to Adults

The principles for identifying and responding to incidents of concern in relation to adults are the same as those for children and in most cases the same process should be followed.

If we are concerned that; an adult is in need of services for his/herself, or that his/her capacity to provide adequate care to the child is affected by his/her vulnerability, or that the adult may be suffering abuse or exploitation, we will:

- Stop and concentrate on what we are observing or being told
- Ensure the person's (and any others) immediate safety
- Do not promise confidentiality or agree to keep something secret
- Will not investigate ourselves and avoid asking leading questions
- Obtain the necessary information to make an informed referral
- Discuss with the Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL)
- Make and keep a record of the incident and actions taken (see Recording below)

The Designated Safeguarding Lead will seek advice from, and if appropriate pass on the concerns to, the Adult Social Care First Contact Team (0114 273 4908)

Recording

- We use the 'Sheffield Abuse of Adults Concern form' to record our concerns and the action we have taken.
- Following referral, we use Anycomms which is a secure email or post a copy of the completed form to the Adult Social Care First Contact Team
- We keep a copy of our completed form for our records

Further Advice and Information

- Contact the Sheffield Safeguarding Adults Team
- Telephone: 0114 2736870 or First Contact Team on 0114 273 4908
- Local guidance for staff and volunteers working with children who are concerned about an adult who might be at risk can be found in the South Yorkshire Safeguarding Adult Procedures at Sheffield Adult Safeguarding Partnership - (sheffieldasp.org.uk)