

Every Parent & Child

Child Protection Policy

This policy applies to all paid staff, volunteers, and the Board of Directors, as well as anyone working on behalf of Every Parent & Child (EPC).

The purpose of this policy is to:

- Protect children and young people who receive services provided by EPC. This includes the children of adults who use EPC services
- Provide staff and volunteers with the overarching principles that inform our approach to Child Protection

EPC believes that a child or young person should never experience abuse of any kind. EPC has a responsibility to promote the welfare of all children and young people engaging with our services and to keep them safe. We are committed to ensuring our practice protects them.

Legal framework

This policy is drawn up to include the guidance set out in:

- Children Act 1989 & 2004
- United Nations Convention of the Rights of the Child 1991
- Data Protection Act 1998
- Sexual Offences Act 2003
- Protection of Freedoms Act 2012
- Working Together 2013
- London Child Protection Procedures 2010
- Other relevant government guidance on safeguarding children

We recognise that:

- The welfare of the child is paramount;
- All children of all ages, genders, abilities, racial heritages, faiths, sexual orientations and identities have a right to equal protection from all types of harm and abuse;
- Some children are additionally vulnerable because of their level of dependency, communication needs, previous experiences or other needs;

- Working in partnership with children, young people, their parents, carers and other agencies is essential to promote young people's welfare.

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

- Valuing, listening to and respecting them;
- Ensuring child protection is at the heart of our services, procedures and decision making;
- Having clear child protection procedures and practices for all staff and volunteers;
- Ensuring all staff and volunteers are DBS checked;
- Following safe recruitment guidelines for all staff and volunteers;
- Providing effective management for staff and volunteers through ongoing supervision, support and training;
- Sharing concerns with agencies who need to know and involving children and parents appropriately.

We are committed to reviewing our policy and practice annually

This policy was reviewed by the CEO in January 2019 and will be reviewed by the EPC Governance Sub Committee in February 2019.

Other relevant policies:

Working with Suicidal Clients

Safeguarding and Child Protection Procedures