

## Safeguarding Policy

<b>Status</b>	Approved	<b>Safeguarding Trustee</b>	Kate Flounders
<b>Initial Review</b>	November 2022	<b>Reviewed By</b>	Charlie Dixon-Prior, Trustees
<b>Last Review</b>	04/04/2024	<b>Approved by Trustees Date</b>	27/03/2024
<b>Next Review</b>	09/09/2024	<b>Links Last Checked</b>	06/03/2024

### Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to ensure that everyone working with Caudwell Youth knows what safeguarding is and how to manage any incident or concern regarding safeguarding. Caudwell Youth supports at risk young people aged 11-24 with mentoring in the community.

*At risk – we are working with young people who may experience mental health challenges, criminal exploitation, offending behaviour and maybe also be care experienced. We recognise that any young person working with us could be at greater risk of harm.*

### Values

Our values are:



**Optimistic and realistic**  
Look to the future but prioritise the present.



**Intentionally inclusive**  
Foster an open culture.



**Delivering with integrity**  
Always uphold honesty, act within our morals & ensure we are dependable.



**Empowering**  
Feedback empathetically, always act with understanding, support and value.

### Policy

The care and support of young people at risk is Caudwell Youth's responsibility as an organisation, rather than that of any one individual. Caudwell Youth aims to ensure that colleagues and volunteers comply with all legal and contractual standards and responsibilities in their work with young people.

Caudwell Youth is committed to building and embedding a culture that places transparency and sound safeguarding and risk management practice at the centre of all its activities. Caudwell Youth encourages all colleagues and volunteers to feel safe to raise any safeguarding or risk concerns and be fully supported if this occurs.

Designated Safeguarding Lead	Charlie Dixon-Prior	07419 185923
Deputy	Scarlett Fymruk	07399 078346
Out of hours Safeguarding number		01908 973808 <a href="mailto:safeguarding@caudwellyouth.org">safeguarding@caudwellyouth.org</a>

### Relevant legislation

- The Children Act 1989 (England & Wales)
- The Children Act 2004
- The Protection of Children Act 1999 (England & Wales)



- Care Act 2014
- Safeguarding Adults 2020-21
- Mental Capacity Act 2005
- The Criminal Justice and Court Services Act 2000 (England & Wales)
- The Police Act 1997
- The Data Protection Acts 1984 and 1998
- The Human Rights Act 1998
- Sex Offenders Act 1997
- Sexual Offences Act 2000 and 2003

## Relevant sources

- Working Together to Safeguard Children 2023 - [link](#)

## Children

Safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children is defined within Working Together 2018 as:

- Protecting children from maltreatment
- Preventing impairment of children's health or development
- Ensuring that children grow up in circumstances consistent with the provision of safe and effective care.
- Taking action to enable all children to have the best outcome Child protection is part of safeguarding and promoting welfare. It is the activity undertaken to protect specific children who are suffering or are likely to suffer significant harm.

## Adults

Caudwell Youth recognises that some young people are legally adults and may also be at risk. Safeguarding issues may arise during work undertaken and the relevant Local Authority guidance and process on safeguarding adults must be followed. Safeguarding means protecting an adult's right to live in safety, free from abuse and neglect. It is about people and organisations working together to prevent and stop both the risks and experience of abuse or neglect, (using definitions set out in WTSC 2018) while at the same time making sure that the adult's wellbeing is promoted including, where appropriate, having regard to their views, wishes, feelings and beliefs in deciding on any action. This must recognise that adults sometimes have complex interpersonal relationships and may be ambivalent, unclear or unrealistic about their personal circumstances (Care Act 2014 Guidance).

## Contextual Safeguarding

Contextual Safeguarding is an approach to understanding and responding to children's experiences of significant harm beyond their family and home. We recognise the possible relationships at school, in the community, online and with peers that can expose young person to exposure to extra-familial abuse. We understand the exploitation risk to young people and follow local procedures should we need to make a MASH or MACE referral. Caudwell Youth is committed to a multi-agency approach to support and protect the young people we work with, and keep up to date with the local teams we work within.



## Safeguarding Referral Pathway & Process

If you are concerned about the welfare of a child or vulnerable adult, the person may be at risk of abuse, or is the potential perpetrator of abuse, tell your line manager (or a member of SLT) They will discuss your concern with one of the Caudwell Youth's Designated Safeguarding Leads, Charlie Dixon-Prior. Deputised by Scarlett Fymruk.

They will decide:

- If your concern requires internal investigation.
- Whether your concern requires a safeguarding referral to Local Authority / Police.
- If it is a concern which does not meet the threshold for a safeguarding referral, but requires a referral to Health, Social Services, or emergency services.

Any concerns must be kept confidential and should not be discussed with anyone other than the Designated Safeguarding Lead, and other relevant professionals. The Designated Safeguarding Lead will support any necessary referral; information should only be shared with people who need to know. Remember you must share any concerns you have about a child or vulnerable adult, even if they ask you not to and if in doubt if it meets the safeguarding threshold refer to the appropriate authority.

If a child or vulnerable adult tells you they are experiencing abuse, it is important to reassure them that they have done the right thing in telling you. Make sure they know that abuse is never their fault. Never promise anyone that you will keep the things they have told you a secret. Explain that you need to share with someone who will be able to help.

Each Local Authority will have a Designated Safeguarding Team/Officer to report a safeguarding concern to and a team to deal with any out of hours concerns. It is important to familiarise yourself with the details of such teams in the area the safeguarding concern has occurred.

			<b>Out of hours or emergency</b>
Buckinghamshire	01296 383962	01296 383204 (Adults)	0800 999 7677.
MK	01908 253169		01908 725005
Luton	01582 547653		0300 3008123
Hertfordshire	0300 1234043	0300 1234042 (Adults)	0300 1234043
Slough	01753 875362	01753 475111 (Adults)	01344 351999

Mentors can contact the safeguarding number should they have any out of hours concerns or cannot get hold of their Youth Support Coordinator - 01908 973808.

## Emergency situations

If a child or vulnerable adult needs emergency medical attention, this must be sought immediately and directly from the emergency services. If possible, parents/carers should be kept fully informed. Once the child or vulnerable adult has been referred for medical attention, continue to follow these procedures.



There may be other situations where a member of staff believes that a child or vulnerable adult is at immediate risk of serious harm in which case the police or Local Authority must be alerted as a matter of urgency.

Should Caudwell Youth have to manage a critical incident, where serious risk or death has occurred an internal debrief would be led by the Safeguarding Trustee and Operations Director with external support supplied by WPA Healthcare.

