

Safeguarding Children Policy

1. Aim of the Policy

The aim of this policy is to provide members of the Staffordshire Parent Carer Forum (hereafter referred to StaffsPCF) Steering Group with clear guidance about their role and responsibilities in safeguarding children, and to provide information for parents and carers about the safeguarding measures that StaffsPCF employs to ensure that it meets its responsibilities to promote the welfare of, and safeguard children and young people.

2. Legislation and guidance that underpins this policy

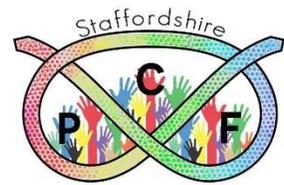
This Policy and Procedures have been developed in line with the principles of The Children Act 1989 and The Children Act 2004, and Working Together to Safeguard Children 2018.

3. The Principles Behind the Safeguarding Children Policy

3.1 In today's world all agencies and individuals now share the responsibility to protect children from harm or the risk of harm. We live and work in a climate where we, as adults, *"have a duty to safeguard and promote the welfare of children"*

3.2 The application of StaffsPCF Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy and Procedures is based on the following key principles:

- The welfare of the child is paramount.
- All children have the right to:
 - Be healthy
 - Stay Safe
 - Enjoy and Achieve
 - Make a positive contribution
 - Achieve economic wellbeing
- All children, whatever their age, culture, disability, gender, language, racial origin, religious belief and/or sexual identity have the right to protection from abuse.



3.3 Whilst it is not the responsibility of this organisation to determine whether or not abuse has taken place (this is undertaken in liaison with external child protection professionals), it is everyone's responsibility to report any concerns in relation to children to the relevant authority.

3.4 The StaffsPCF Steering Group does not have direct contact with children and young people, however by the nature of the organisation we work directly with parent carers of disabled children and young people. Therefore it is essential that we have robust policies and procedures.

3.5 All Steering Group members are expected to be familiar with, and comply with this policy, and its procedures.

Date first agreed: 5th October 2021
Agreed by: StaffsPCF Steering Group
Next review date: October 2022
