



WrightChoiceCare

Safeguarding Children/Young People/Vulnerable Adults Policy

Safeguarding officers are Managing Director Liz Horne and Staffing Coordinator Emma Wright.

Wrightchoicecare safeguarding officers are responsible for;

- Induction, ongoing training and supervision of all staff in relation to safeguarding.
- Development of new safeguarding policies and in ensuring that existing policies are kept up to date.
- Ensuring matters of a possible child protection nature are reported / referred appropriately, and in accordance with Safeguarding Board.
- Being the first point of contact for our agency safeguarding and child protection issues.
- Promoting good practice in safeguarding and protecting children and young people.
- Overseeing and ensuring that our safeguarding policy is fully implemented and that we attain SAFE standards. These details will be made by training, posters, leaflet, and induction information.

Purpose

We recognise that, under the Children Act 2004, we have a duty and responsibility for making arrangements to ensure all its functions are discharged having regard to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children/young people in their care. Wrightchoicecare recognizes that the welfare of vulnerable adults is paramount and that they have equal rights of protection. We promote the welfare and safeguarding of children/young people/vulnerable adults by;

- Protecting children/young people/vulnerable adults from maltreatment;
- Preventing impairment of their health or development;
- Ensuring they grow up with circumstances consistent with the provision of safe and effective care;
- Enabling them to have optimum life chances and to enter adulthood successfully.

We will:

- Treat all children/young people/vulnerable adults with respect and celebrate their achievements
- Carefully recruit and select all staff
- Respond to concerns and allegations appropriately
- Adopt the recommendations of the safeguarding tool kit.

We aim to assist service users achieve the five outcomes that are identified in the Children Act 2004:

- Be Healthy – physical and mental health and emotional well-being
- Stay Safe – prevention and protection from harm and neglect
- Enjoy and Achieve – education, training and recreation
- Make a positive contribution to society
- Achieve Economic and social Well-being.

When there are concerns about the welfare of any child/young person/vulnerable adult all staff in our agency are expected to share those concerns with the lead for safeguarding who is responsible for:

- Monitoring and recording concerns
- Making referrals to social care services without delay
- Liaise with other agencies
- Government guidance is clear that all organisations working with children, vulnerable adults, families, parents and carers have responsibilities. It is important to remember that children and vulnerable adults can also abuse and that such incidents fall into the remit of this policy.
- In cases of disclosure of abuse by a child or vulnerable adult we are obliged to share the information and will refer our concerns to social care services or the police in an emergency.
- Concerns about the behaviour of staff in the agency will be referred without delay to the lead for safeguarding who will contact social care services, or the police, if a crime may have been committed
- In the situations that the concerns are about the safeguarding officer it is important to refer to the LADO, social care services or the police if a crime may have been committed.

Policy

Wrightchoicecare approach will be,

- Service user centred.
- Rooted in individual development.
- Supportive of the achievement of the service users.
- Assisting the service users to improve their well-being.
- Holistic in approach.
- To ensure equality of opportunity.
- To actively involve service users and families.
- Building on strengths as well as identifying and addressing difficulties.
- Multi/inter-agency in approach.
- Informed by evidence.

We fully recognise and uphold the 5 key principles of the Mental Capacity Act 2005 in all aspects of our work by:

- Presuming each service user has capacity to make individual choices.
 - Supporting individuals to make their own decisions
 - Recognising the right for individuals to make their own decisions, even if they may seem eccentric
 - Making sure what we do for service users is in their best interests.
 - Making sure that anything we do is the least restrictive action for the individual
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The term "Abuse" is a violation of an individual's human or civil rights by any other person or persons involving a single or repeated act or omission occurring within a personal or professional relationship whether there is an expectation of trust which causes harm.

Abuse is defined in 'No Secrets' DOH 2000' as the 'violation of an individual's human or civil rights by any other person or persons'. Examples of this include:

- 1 Emotional Abuse
- 2 Physical abuse
- 3 Neglect and Acts of Omission
- 4 Sexual abuse
- 5 Institutional Abuse
- 6 Financial or material abuse
- 7 Discriminatory Abuse
- 8 Domestic Abuse and Violence

You may become aware of suspected or likely abuse by:

- Your own observations and concerns;
- Being told by another person that they have concerns about a vulnerable adult;
- The vulnerable adult tells you;
- The abuser tells you.

The term "Vulnerable Adult" refers to any person aged 18 years and over who:

- is or maybe in need of Care Services by reason of mental, physical or learning disability, age or illness
- is unable to take care of himself or herself, or to protect himself or herself against significant harm or serious exploitation which may be occasioned by actions or inactions of other people
- Wrightchoiceware endeavour to treat all service users with respect, regardless of ability or culture.
- All staff are committed to the importance of safeguarding and promoting the children/young people/vulnerable adult's welfare whilst in our care.
- The staffing coordinator will take responsibility for monitoring the actions of staff to safeguard and promote the welfare of children/young people/vulnerable adults, ensuring that they are listened to appropriately and take appropriate action regarding any concerns expressed about their welfare.
- All members of staff who work for us have a clear understanding of our responsibilities for safeguarding.
- A statement of our responsibilities towards children/young people/vulnerable adults will be available to all staff, and this will include effective systems to ensure that complaints about non-compliance with safeguarding procedures and policies can be made by children/young people, staff and other people - and that they receive an appropriate response.
- We have clear lines of accountability for work on safeguarding. The Safeguarding Officer(s) have the duty and accountability to ensure satisfactory arrangements are in place to safeguard and promote the welfare of our service users.
- Our agency will ensure that every member of staff knows how to seek advice and report any concern for a child. Individual responsibilities for safeguarding and promoting will be encompassed within relevant job descriptions and procedures.
- All our policies and services take account of the need to safeguard and promote the welfare of service users and so far as possible will be informed by their views.
- Staff have appropriate safeguarding training consistent with their role and function.
- Information is shared efficiently and effectively within the team in respect of issues that may affect the safety and welfare of a service user, especially when they are concerned that they are suffering or at risk of suffering harm.

- Robust recruitment and vetting procedures are in place to prevent unsuitable people from having contact with our service users.
 - Allegations or concerns about staff are handled effectively and in accordance with agreed guidance, including that provided by Safeguarding Board.
 - We have effective procedures are in place for sharing concerns about other members of staff, and that there is a culture throughout Wrightchoiceware that enables safeguarding issues to be addressed.
 - We provide personal care as needed. This will be carried out in a dignified way and in private.
 - Wrightchoiceware positively encourage all service users to succeed and celebrate their achievements through praise and reward. We are particularly sensitive to the needs of disabled service users who may achieve in smaller steps than their peers but are equally entitled to celebration.
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