

Williette Safehouse Safeguarding Policy



Williette Safehouse
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The purpose and scope of this policy statement

Williette Safehouse works with children and families as a part of its activities. These include: school clubs, youth amputee programs, etc.

The purpose of this policy statement is:

- to protect children and young people who receive Williette Safehouse services. This includes the children of adults who use our services.
- to provide parents, staff, and volunteers with the overarching principles that guide our approach to child protection.

This policy statement applies to anyone working on behalf of Williette Safehouse, including project managers and the board of trustees, paid staff, volunteers, sessional workers, agency staff and students.

We believe that:

- children and young people should never experience abuse of any kind
- we have a responsibility to promote the welfare of all children and young people, to keep them safe, and to practice in a way that protects them.

We recognize that:

- the welfare of the child is paramount
- all children, regardless of age, disability, gender reassignment, race, religion or belief, sex, or sexual orientation have a right to equal protection from all types of harm or abuse
- some children are additionally vulnerable because of the impact of previous experiences, their level of dependency, communication needs or other issues
- working in partnership with children, young people, their parents, caregivers and other agencies is essential in promoting youth welfare.

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

- valuing, listening to, and respecting them
- developing child protection, safeguarding policies, and procedures which reflect best practice
- using our safeguarding procedures to share concerns and relevant information with agencies who need to know, and involving children, young people, parents, families, and caregivers appropriately
- creating and maintaining an anti-bullying environment and ensuring that we have policies and procedures to help us deal effectively with any bullying that does arise
 - recruiting staff and volunteers safely, ensuring all necessary checks are made
- providing effective management for staff and volunteers through supervision, support, training, and quality assurance measures
- implementing a code of conduct for staff and volunteers
- using our procedures to manage any allegations against staff and volunteers appropriately
- ensuring that we have effective complaints and whistleblowing measures in place
- ensuring that we provide a safe physical environment for our children, young people, staff and volunteers, by applying health and safety measures in accordance with the law and regulatory guidance
- recording and storing information professionally and securely