 **LIBERTY LEARNING AUTISM CONSULTANCY**

**CHILD SAFEGUARDING POLICY**

Under the Education Act 2002 (section 175/157), educational establishments must "make arrangements to safeguard and promote the welfare of children".

At Liberty Learning we will endeavour to provide a safe and welcoming environment where children are respected and valued and where all achievements, no matter how small. are celebrated.

Liberty Learning will therefore be alert to signs of abuse and neglect and will follow the Local Safeguarding Children Board (LSCB) procedures to ensure that children receive appropriate and effective support and protection. All staff at Liberty Learning are carefully recruited and have the necessary skills, knowledge and qualifications to carry out their role to the highest of standards. All staff, either paid or voluntary hold a current DBS (Disclosure and Barring Service).

Parents/carers should know that the law requires all Liberty staff to pass on information which gives rise to a concern about a child's welfare, including risk from neglect, physical, emotional or sexual abuse. Liberty Learning should make parents/carers aware that records of welfare concerns may be kept about their child. They should be informed that Liberty staff will seek, in general, to discuss any concerns with them including referrals to other agencies. However, in situations where the child is suspected to be at risk of harm, the law says that provisions may take advice from other agencies without informing parents/carers.

In accordance with local Information Sharing protocols, we will ensure that information is shared securely and sensitively. Information will only be shared with other services where it is deemed necessary and proportionate to ensure that children and young people are safe and receive the right service.

Liberty Learning will seek advice from Social Care when they have reasonable cause to suspect a child may be suffering or likely to suffer significant harm. Occasionally, concerns are passed on which are later shown to be unfounded.

Parents/carers will appreciate that the member of staff for Liberty Learning who is responsible for child protection (known as the

Designated Person for Child Protection - Caroline Williams) was carrying out

their responsibilities in accordance with the law and acting in the best interests of all children. Under Section 3 (5) of the Children Act 1989, any person who has care of a child "may....do what is reasonable in all the circumstances of the case for the purpose of safeguarding or promoting the child's welfare".

This policy should be read alongside the following Liberty Learning policies:

* Code of Conduct for Safer Working Practice.
* Code of Conduct for Employees.
* Safe Touch Policy.
* Anti-bullying policy.

**Lead person for Child Safeguarding is**:

CAROLINE WILLIAMS - 07941363861

**Deputy person for Child Safeguarding is**:

STEPHANIE BULL - 07941363861

**Northamptonshire Safeguarding Children Board**

If a child is in immediate danger, left alone or missing, you should contact the police directly and/or an ambulance using **999.**

If there is no immediate danger but you are concerned about a child's welfare, contact us using the telephone service: **Telephone** 0300 126 1000

If you need to contact children's social care urgently during the evening, at night or at the weekend, phone our out of hours team on 01604 626938.

Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) and Child Protection Team Children, Families and Education

Criminal Justice Centre 700 Pavilion Drive Brackmills Northampton

NN4 7YL

This policy will be reviewed annually by the Lead Person for Child Safeguarding

Last reviewed: 19/07/2021

Next review: 18/07/2022