



Shropshire Dyslexia Association

Email: info@thesda.org.uk

Safeguarding Policy Statement

The Shropshire Dyslexia Association (SDA) is a Local Dyslexia association affiliated to the British Dyslexia Association. The SDA, using specialist teachers, provides personalised one to one and small group tuition for pupils experiencing dyslexia (a specific learning difficulty SpLD) or those with literacy difficulties.

The purpose of this policy statement is:

- to protect children and young people who receive Shropshire Dyslexia Association's services from harm. This includes the children of adults who use our services
- to provide staff and volunteers, as well as children and young people and their families, with the overarching principles that guide our approach to child protection.

This policy applies to anyone working on behalf of Shropshire Dyslexia Association including committee members, trustees, paid staff, volunteers, and students.

Legal Framework

This policy has been drawn up on the basis of legislation, policy and guidance that seeks to protect children in England. A summary of the key legislation is available from nspcc.org.uk/learning.

Supporting documents

This policy statement should be read alongside our organisational policies, procedures, guidance and other related documents.

- Role description for the designated safeguarding officer
- Dealing with disclosures and concerns about a child or young person
- Managing allegations against staff and volunteers
- Recording concerns and information sharing
- Child protection records retention and storage
- Code of conduct for staff and volunteers
- Behaviour codes for children and young people
- Photography and sharing images guidance
- Safer recruitment
- Online safety
- Anti-bullying
- Managing complaints
- Whistleblowing
- Health and safety
- Induction, training, supervision and support
- Adult to child supervision ratios

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 practise in a way that protects them.

We recognise that:

- the welfare of children is paramount in all the work we do and in all the decisions we take all children, regardless of age, disability, gender reassignment, race, religion or belief, sex, or sexual orientation have an equal right to 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, carers and other agencies is essential in promoting young people's welfare.

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

- valuing, listening to and respecting them
- appointing a nominated child protection lead for children and young people, a deputy and a lead trustee/board member for safeguarding
- adopting child protection and safeguarding best practice through our policies, procedures and code of conduct for staff and volunteers
- developing and implementing an effective online safety policy and related procedures
- providing effective management for staff and volunteers through supervision, support, training and quality assurance measures so that all staff and volunteers know about and follow our policies, procedures and behaviour codes confidently and competently
- recruiting and selecting staff and volunteers safely, ensuring all necessary checks are made
- recording, storing and using information professionally and securely, in line with data protection legislation and guidance
- using our safeguarding and child protection procedures to share concerns and relevant information with agencies who need to know, and involving children, young people, parents, families and carers appropriately
- using our procedures to manage any allegations against staff
- making sure that children, young people and their families know where to go for help if they have a concern
- using our procedures to manage any allegations against staff and volunteers appropriately
- creating and maintaining an anti-bullying environment and ensuring that we have a policy and procedure to help us deal effectively with any bullying that does arise
- 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
- building a safeguarding culture where staff and volunteers, children, young people and their families, treat each other with respect and are comfortable about sharing concerns.

Contact details:

Nominated child protection lead

Name: Karen Mitchell, Chair Shropshire Dyslexia Association

Phone/email: ginimitchell@btinternet.com 07885 731436

Deputy child protection lead(s)

Name: Roslyn McCarthy, Deputy Chair, Shropshire Dyslexia Association

Phone/email: ros.mac@hotmail.co.uk 07787120405

Senior lead for safeguarding and child protection

Name: Sarah Smith, Workshop Tutor, Shropshire Dyslexia Association

Phone / email: sarahsmith884@btinternet.com 07803909782

Shropshire Safeguarding Partnership (SSP)

If you think a child or young person is being harmed or at risk of being harmed you **must** contact the **First Point of Contact (FPOC)**, Children's Services and tell them your concerns.

Please report your concerns to **FPOC on 0345 678 9021**.

If you need to report concerns out of office hours then please contact the Emergency Duty Team on 0345 6789040.

Alternatively, you can report your concerns online to the NSPCC via the '[Report child abuse online - NSPCC website](#)'.

You can also speak to:

- **Protecting Vulnerable People** (West Mercia Police): 0300 333 3000
- **NSPCC helpline:** 0800 800 5000
- **Childline:** 0800 1111

We are committed to reviewing our policy and good practice annually.

This policy was last reviewed on: 17th September 2020

Signed:



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Chair, Shropshire Dyslexia Association

Date:17 September 2020.....