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## **Child Protection and Vulnerable People Safeguarding Policy Sept 2018**

This policy applies to all staff and volunteers, including the Honorary Officers and Executive Committee, paid staff, volunteers and seasonal workers, agency staff, students or anyone working on behalf of **Ponteland Community Partnership. (PCP)**

### **The purpose of this policy:**

- To protect children, young and vulnerable people who receive Ponteland Community Partnership's services. This includes the children of adults who use our service;
- To provide staff and volunteers with the overarching principles that guide our approach to safeguarding child and vulnerable people protection;

Ponteland Community Partnership believes that a child, young or vulnerable person should never experience abuse of any kind. We have a responsibility to promote the welfare of all and to keep them safe. We are committed to practice in a way that promotes.

### **Legal Framework**

This policy has been drawn up on the basis of law guidance that seeks to protect children, young people and vulnerable people.

### **This policy should be read alongside other policies and procedures on:**

- Recruitment, Induction and Training
- Role of the Designated Safeguarding Officer
- Dealing with disclosures and concerns about a child, young or vulnerable person
- Managing allegations against staff and volunteers
- Recording and information sharing
- Volunteers Code of Conduct Agreement
- Safer recruitment
- E – safety
- Anti – bullying
- Complaints

- Whistle blowing
- Health and safety
- Training, supervision and support
- Lone working policy and procedure
- Quality assurance

**We recognise that:**

- The welfare of the child, young or vulnerable person is paramount, as enshrined in the Children Act 1989
- All regardless of age, disability, gender, racial heritage, religious belief, sexual orientation or identity, have a right to equal protection from all types of harm or abuse.
- Some children, young and vulnerable 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, vulnerable people and other agencies is essential in promoting welfare.

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

- Valuing them, listening to and respecting them
- Appointing a Designated Safeguarding Officer (DSO) for children young and vulnerable people, ( Pratima Mehra contact.....) a Deputy (Shirley Hill contact.....) and a Lead Honorary Officer for Safeguarding (Frank Harrington contact.....)
- Adopting protection and safeguarding practices through procedures and a code of conduct for volunteers ( Through training)
- Developing and implementing an effective e – safety policy and related procedure
- Providing effective management for staff and volunteers through supervision, support, annual training and quality assurance measures
- Recruiting staff and volunteers safely, ensuring all necessary checks are made, if appropriate.
- Recording and storing information professionally and securely, and sharing information about safeguarding and good practice with children, their families, staff and volunteers via leaflets, posters, one-to-one discussions
- Using safeguarding procedures to share concerns and relevant information with agencies, who need to know, and involving children, young and vulnerable people, parents. Families and carers appropriately
- 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 whistle blowing measures in place
- Ensuring that we provide a safe physical environment for our children, young and vulnerable people, staff and volunteers, by applying health and safety measures in accordance with the law and regulatory guidance

## **Contact Details**

Designated Safeguarding Officer (DSO)

Name Pratima Mehra

Contact details via Website contact page

Deputy Designated Safeguarding Officer

Name Shirley Hill

Contact details via Website contact page

Senior Lead for Safeguarding

Name Frank Harrington

Contact details via Website contact page

CEOP [www.ceop.police.uk](http://www.ceop.police.uk)

NSPCC Helpline 0808 800 5000

**The Ponteland Community Partnership are committed to reviewing our policy ANNUALLY or when legislation changes.**

**This policy was last reviewed on 19<sup>th</sup> September 2018**

**Signed** *Alma Dunigan* Chairman