

Safeguarding Policy

Kidney Care UK believes that no child, young person or vulnerable adult should ever have to experience harm or abuse of any kind and should always be treated with dignity and respect. We have a responsibility to promote the welfare of all children, young people and vulnerable adults and to keep them safe. We are committed to practice in a way that protects them and require every member of staff, volunteer or representative of the charity to share this commitment.

It is the responsibility of all representatives of Kidney Care UK to raise any concerns they have or which are reported to them. This policy applies to all staff, including senior managers and the board of trustees, paid staff, volunteers/ sessional workers, agency staff, students, work experience employees or anyone working on behalf of Kidney Care UK.

This policy should be read alongside the Charity's other policies and procedures.

The purpose of this policy is:

- To protect children, young people and vulnerable adults who receive Kidney Care UK services. This includes the children of adults who use our services;
- To provide Trustees, Senior Management, staff and volunteers with the overarching principles that guide our approach to safeguarding;
- To identify key personnel who will act as a 'safeguarding lead' when an issue of safeguarding is raised through our patient-related work or within the organisation.

Legal Framework

This policy has been drawn up on the basis of law and guidance that seeks to protect children, young people or vulnerable adults including but not limited to:

- Children Act 1989
- United Convention of the Right of the Child 1991
- Data Protection Act 1998
- Human Rights Act 1998
- Sexual Offences Act 2003
- Children Act 2004
- Charities Act 2011
- Equality Act 2010
- Care Act 2014
- Safeguarding Vulnerable Groups Act 2006
- Working together to Safeguard Children 2015
- 'A child-centred system' 2011
- Protection of Freedoms Act 2012
- The Children and Families Act 2014
- The Children and Social Work Act 2017
- Institute of Fundraising – Treating Donors Fairly
- The Code of Fundraising Practice – The Fundraising Regulator

We recognise that:

- The welfare of the child, young person or vulnerable adult is paramount
- Some children, young people or adults are especially vulnerable due to the impact of previous experiences, their level of dependency, their communication needs or other issues
- All children, young people and vulnerable adults regardless of their age, disability, gender, race, religious beliefs, sexual orientation or identity, have the right to equal protection from harm

- Working in partnership with children, young people, their parents, vulnerable adults, carers and other agencies is essential in promoting the welfare of those we need to protect.

We will aim to keep children, young people and vulnerable adults safe by:

- Valuing them, listening to them and respecting them as individuals
- Ensuring concerns or allegations of abuse or neglect will always be taken seriously and investigated
- Ensuring all managers employees, volunteers and representatives have access to, and are familiar with this policy and know their responsibilities within it.
- Providing effective management for all trustees, staff and volunteers through supervision, support and training at a level commensurate with their role.
- Recruiting trustees, staff and volunteers using safer recruitment best practice, ensuring all necessary checks are completed
- Sharing concerns with relevant agencies and involving parents, children, carers appropriately

Roles and Responsibilities

Safeguarding individuals at risk is everyone's responsibility. However, Kidney Care UK Managers, and ultimately Directors, hold overall accountability for this Policy and its implementation.

It is the responsibility of all Kidney Care UK Managers to ensure delivery of this policy and to promote it in all aspects of their work, to hold themselves and others to account and to help create a safe environment for all.

Designated Safeguarding Officer (DSO) for Kidney Care UK:

Head of Patient Support and Advocacy

Mr Nicholas Palmer

Deputy Designated Safeguarding Officer (DSO) for Kidney Care UK:

PA to the CEO & Office Manager

Mrs Tina Seaton

All concerns about safeguarding issues must be reported to the immediate line manager and the Kidney Care UK DSO within 24 hours (or the Deputy DSO if the DSO is unavailable). Reporting of safeguarding issues relating to Patient Support and Advocacy work will normally go back to the responsible health care team for the individual. Where appropriate and depending on the type of issue identified, the appropriate organisations will be notified. These may include, but are not limited to the following:

- Care Quality Commission – care
- Police – crime
- Social Services – family/care
- General Medical Council – Professional misconduct

Recording

In accordance with our own procedures for capturing patient information, any safeguarding issue relating to Patient Support and Advocacy work will be recorded on a Patient Record Sheet.

Review

We are committed to reviewing our policy annually and updating our working practice regularly including safeguarding training every three years.