

Safeguarding Strategy



Foreword

by Director of Nursing and Quality, Sally Shearer

Sheffield Children's NHSFT is an integrated provider of children and young people's healthcare. This means that we provide care and treatment for children and young people who are:

- needing to stay on one of our wards as an acute inpatient
- attending appointments with our doctors, nurses and therapists in our outpatient services
- accessing our community mental health services
- being seen by our 0-19 team of health visitors and school nurses
- being supported by our Looked After and Adoptive Children's Health team
- needing mental health care on one of our inpatient lodges for children and young people
- critically unwell and needing a specialist team to transfer them from one hospital to another

Safeguarding means protecting people's health, wellbeing and human rights, enabling them to live free from harm, abuse and neglect. It is a really important part of providing healthcare. At Sheffield Children's we believe that safeguarding is everyone's business, that is how we keep people safe.

Whilst we mainly care for children and young people, we have a responsibility to make sure adults at risk are safeguarded too. A small number of our patients may be over 18 and have not quite finished their transition over to adult services. We also have a responsibility to keep vulnerable carers, or members of staff safe too.

We are really committed to providing safeguarding services of the highest quality. We have developed this safeguarding strategy, to set out our direction and make sure that we continuously learn, develop and improve the way that we keep everyone safe who uses our services.

I hope that you find this document useful,



Sally Shearer

Director of Nursing and Quality

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Our Aim

Our aim is that all children , young people and adults who receive care from Sheffield Children’s NHS Foundation Trust will be protected from neglect, harm and abuse.

Our principles:

We will create a positive culture to safeguard children and young people and adults through the following principles:

- We will ensure that when we work with children and young people, their welfare is paramount at all times.
- We will deliver the best care and protection to children, young people and adults, promoting anti-discriminatory practice to support a culturally diverse population.
- We will ensure that a ‘safety’ culture is maintained across the organisation and that we learn from our experience

We will keep children and young people at the centre of everything we do, actively seeking their views and listening to their voice.

We will demonstrate our accountability through transparent governance arrangements

We will achieve our aim through:

- Ensuring a safe and competent workforce through recruitment and training
- excellence and expertise in our safeguarding teams
- Recognition and response to early indicators of neglect, harm and abuse
- Providing high quality and competent care to those who have suffered harm, promoting recovery and resilience
- Working with our local, regional and national partners
- Learning from local and national reviews and by encouraging research





Safeguarding is integral to everything that we do. Our safeguarding strategy aligns with:

Our Vision and Values

We are committed to:

- Excellence
- Accountability
- Compassion
- Teamwork
- Integrity

Our Trust Strategy

Caring Together : To provide a healthier future for children and young people

- Provide high quality patient experience and outcomes
- Employ motivated and compassionate staff
- Lead improvements in paediatric care
- Build clinical and financial sustainability
- Discover new ways to improve child health

Our work will be underpinned by:

- Working Together to Safeguard Children 2018
- The Children Act 1989
- The Children Act 2004
- The Care Act 2014
- The Human Rights Act 1998
- The Mental Capacity Act 2005
- CQC Regulation 9 Person centred care
- CQC Regulation 10 Dignity and respect
- CQC Regulation 11 Need for consent
- CQC Regulation 12 Safe care and treatment
- CQC Regulation 13 Safeguarding service users from abuse and improper treatment
- Data Protection Act 2018
- Health and Social Care Act 2012
- NICE Guidelines
- Sheffield Safeguarding and Child Protection Procedures
- South Yorkshire Safeguarding Adults Procedures
- Trust safeguarding policies and guidelines



Safeguarding governance

This document sets out our ambition for safeguarding 2019-2022
Our continuous journey to safeguarding excellence will be monitored through our governance structure.

Trust Board

Quality Committee

Trust Safeguarding Committee

Recognition and response to early indicators of neglect, harm and abuse

We believe safeguarding is everybody's business. We will:

- Ensure all staff can recognise and act upon safeguarding concerns
- Promote a 'Think Family' approach
- Encourage our staff to demonstrate professional curiosity and evidence this in their assessments and record keeping
- Support staff to assess risk and impact on the child/young person, using recognised evidence based tools and referral pathways





Providing high quality and competent care to those who have suffered harm, promoting recovery and resilience

We believe those who have suffered harm deserve compassionate, high quality, prompt and effective care. We will achieve this through:

- The holistic assessment of the child, young person and family.
- A sensitive and timely response leading to a clear interpretation and analysis of the risk
- Ensuring that the child's voice and lived experience is reflected through advocacy and escalation to partner agencies
- The provision of prompt and high quality restorative health care interventions

Working with our local, regional and national partners

We believe partnership working is pivotal to effective safeguarding practice. We will do this by:

- Using shared language and values, with agreed thresholds of need to safeguard children, young people and adults
- Being an active and accountable member of the local safeguarding partnership
- Embracing and driving change, locally, regionally and nationally.
- Working collaboratively, sharing appropriate information to keep children, young people and adults safe
- Offering and accepting professional challenge from our partners to optimise outcomes for all





Learning from local and national reviews and by encouraging research

We believe that learning from our own experience and others, and embedding this in practice is central to the continuous pursuit of excellence. We will do this by:

- Listening to the feedback from people who use our service to ensure our services remain responsive
- Auditing our safeguarding procedures to identify areas of strength and required development
- Engaging in partnership audit and learning activities to broaden our sphere of understanding, leading to positive practice changes
- Responding to recommendations made by our regulatory bodies to ensure that our services are compliant with best practice standards
- Horizon scanning to ensure that regional and national learning are integrated into our work

