

## **YMCA West Kent Safeguarding Policy Statement 2019/2020 for web/public use**

Governance, Management & Strategic Leadership of YMCA West Kent lies with the Board [Trustees / Directors] & Senior Management Team [SMT]. They recognise the importance of working with children, young people & adults at risk of harm [in need of protection, or with additional care or support needs] and vital responsibility to protect everyone from harm. This brief summary has been approved for our website or sharing with other agencies. Our full policy is **confidential** - NOT for release to others or on our website. We are committed to safeguarding children, young people and adults and ensuring their well-being. Specifically:

- We recognise we all have a responsibility to help prevent the physical, sexual, emotional abuse and neglect of children & young people (under 18) and to report any such abuse or neglect we discover or suspect.
- We believe every child should be valued, safe & happy. We want to make sure children we have contact with know this and are empowered to tell us if they are suffering any harm, abuse, neglect or coercion.
- Children & young people have the right to be treated with respect, listened to and protected from harm.
- We recognise we all have a responsibility to help prevent the physical, sexual, psychological, financial and discriminatory abuse and neglect of adults at risk of harm, [who may be vulnerable, or have Additional Care or Support Needs] and to report any such abuse or neglect we discover or suspect.
- We recognise personal dignity and rights of adults; and will ensure all our policies, procedures & practice reflect this, by being person-centred, trauma-informed, empowering and recognising mental capacity.
- We believe all adults should enjoy and have access to every aspect of the life in the community and within the Charity unless they pose a significant risk to the safety of our beneficiaries who we exist to serve.
- We exercise proper care in appointing, selecting, training and supervising all staff, managers, volunteers and board members who manage or work with children, young people and adults in need of protection.

### **We are committed to protecting vulnerable people by:**

- Following the requirements, statutory guidance and good practice recommendations of legislation relating to [safeguarding children](#), young people & adults; including but not limited to: Housing Act 1996, Sexual Offences Act 2003, Children Act 1989 & 2004, Mental Capacity Act 2005, Childcare Act 2006, Safeguarding Vulnerable Groups Act 2006, [Care Act 2014](#), [Modern Slavery Act 2015](#), [Counter Terrorism & Security Act 2015](#) & [Prevent duty](#), [Ending Gang \(& Youth\) Violence & Exploitation Jan 2016](#), [Homelessness Reduction Act 2017](#) & [Housing 16/17 year olds Guidance](#), [Children & Social Work Act 2017](#), [Working Together to Safeguard Children 2018](#), [Criminal Exploitation of children & vulnerable adults: County Lines guidance \[HO Sep 2018\]](#), [Charity Commission alerts \(22 Oct 19\)](#), [Keeping Children Safe in Education \[DfE Sept 2019\]](#)
- Respecting the rights of children as described in the [UN Convention on the Rights of the Child](#).
- Implementing legislation (DDA 2005, [Equality Act 2010](#)) in regard to diversity & people with disabilities.
- Ensuring workers adhere to agreed procedures within our safeguarding policy.
- Keeping updated with national [[31:8](#), [DfE](#)] and local [[KSCMP](#)] developments relating to safeguarding.
- Supporting the safeguarding leads in their work and in **any action they may need to take in order to protect children, young people or adults at risk of harm.**
- Ensuring everyone agrees to abide by these recommendations & guidelines, and engages in training.

YMCA enables people to develop their full potential in mind, body and spirit. Inspired by, and faithful to, our Christian values, we create supportive, inclusive and energising communities, where young people can truly belong, contribute and thrive.

SUPPORT & ADVICE

ACCOMMODATION

FAMILY WORK

HEALTH & WELLBEING

TRAINING & EDUCATION

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[www.WestKentYMCA.org.uk](http://www.WestKentYMCA.org.uk) | Company Limited by Guarantee No 2512960 | Registered Charity No 803529

Registered Office - Head Office, YMCA Ryder House, 1-23 Belgrave Road, Tunbridge Wells, Kent TN11 2BP

- Supporting parents, carers, families and other statutory & voluntary agencies whenever appropriate.
- Nurturing, protecting and safeguarding children and young people; and adults at risk of harm, including training and empowering clients to identify & report abuse or neglect, and take protective action.
- Supporting, resourcing, training, monitoring and providing supervision to all who undertake this work.
- Supporting all clients, volunteers, trustees & staff affected by abuse: with counselling, cognitive behaviour therapy [CBT], confidential helpline [phone /face to face counselling/CBT], [31:8 helpline](tel:03030031111), resources like anger management, [www.truthproject.org.uk/i-will-be-heard](http://www.truthproject.org.uk/i-will-be-heard), non-managerial supervision or NHS services.
- Adopting & following the [10 safeguarding standards](#) developed by [ThirtyOne:Eight](#) [previously CCPAS] and seeking their [advice](#), guidance & assistance whenever appropriate on **0303 003 11 11**.
- Reporting any concerns / allegations about workers to [the LADO](#) and/or [the DBS](#) whenever appropriate.
- [Reporting serious incidents / allegations](#) to the [Charity Commission](#), [Ofsted](#) or [RSH](#) in a timely manner.
- Reporting suspected on-line abuse/grooming to [CEOP](#) and providing [e-safety training](#) & [guidance](#).

**We recognise:**

- Children's Social Services and the Police have lead responsibility for investigating all allegations or suspicions of abuse or neglect where there are concerns about an unborn child, child or young person.
- Adult Social Services and the Police have lead responsibility for investigating all allegations or suspicions of abuse or neglect where there are concerns about an adult at risk of harm, or in need of protection.
- Where an allegation or disclosure suggests a criminal offence may have been committed, or is about to be committed then the police must be contacted as a matter of urgency.
- Where working outside UK, concerns will be reported to the appropriate agencies in country, and their procedures followed, and in addition we will report concerns within the UK.
- Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility.
- Our duty to cooperate to the fullest extent with any safeguarding enquiry or investigation.
- The need to review this statement and our policy and procedures annually.

**If you have any concerns about a child, young person or adult at risk of harm, known to YMCA West Kent you should contact one of our designated safeguarding leads [DSLs] as soon as possible:**

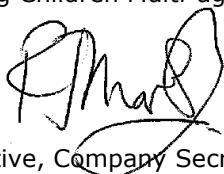
- **Rob Marsh** (Chief Executive) on Mobile/text/WhatsApp **07941 388 852** or [Rob@WestKentYMCA.org.uk](mailto:Rob@WestKentYMCA.org.uk) or 01892 542209 [Child & Adult Safeguarding Lead or Coordinator] or
- **Jane Davison** (Education & SEN Manager) Mob/text **07872 987 764** or [JaneD@WestKentYMCA.org.uk](mailto:JaneD@WestKentYMCA.org.uk) or 01732 363 990 [Deputy Child & Adult Safeguarding Lead or Coordinator]

Alternatively, contact [ThirtyOne:Eight helpline 0303 003 11 11](tel:03030031111) [Mon-Fri 9-5 – or 24/7 for emergency / urgent matters / concerns / advice] or [info@thirtyoneeight.org](mailto:info@thirtyoneeight.org) | [www.thirtyoneeight.org](http://www.thirtyoneeight.org)

Or contact Kent Social Services **03000 414141** (duty team) or the police **101** or **999** (safeguarding)

A copy of our full policy & procedures is available only from our Head Office on receipt of written requests to: [HR@WestKentYMCA.org.uk](mailto:HR@WestKentYMCA.org.uk) or FAX 08712 390 677. Our full safeguarding policy has been copied to KCC, Kent Safeguarding Children Multi-agency Partnership [KSCMP], [ThirtyOne:Eight](#) and our insurers.

Signed by:



Rob Marsh

Date: 1 November 2019

Chief Executive, Company Secretary, Safeguarding Lead, DBS Disclosure Officer, Data Controller