

## DVS Foundation Safeguarding Policy

The purpose of this policy statement is:

- To protect children and young people who receive DVS Foundation's services from harm.
- 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 DVS Foundation including board of trustees, paid staff, volunteers, seasonal workers, agency staff 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](https://www.nspcc.org.uk/learning).

Supporting documents:

This policy statement should be read alongside our organisational procedures other related documents.

- Role description for the designated safeguarding lead.
- Dealing with disclosures and concerns about a child or young person.
- Code of conduct for staff and volunteers.
- Whistleblowing.

We believe that:

- Children and young people should never experience abuse or neglect 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 safeguarding lead.
- Adopting child protection and safeguarding best practice through our policies, procedures and code of conduct for staff and volunteers.
- 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.
- Making sure that children, young people and their families know where to go for help if they have a concern.
- 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.
- Ensuring that we have effective 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 safeguarding lead**

Name: Rupal

Phone/email: rupal@dvsproperty.com

**Trustee/Senior lead for safeguarding**

Name: Priyan

Phone/email: dvs@dvsproperty.com

**NSPCC Helpline**

0800 800 5000

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

This policy was last reviewed on: 12/04/2023.