

LSI YW20

Embed an organisational policy for the protection and safeguarding of young people



Overview

The importance of safeguarding young people is one of the values which youth workers are expected to know about and apply in their practice

This standard is about contributing to and creating an organisational culture of protection and safeguarding, with a focus on ensuring that effective policy and procedures is in place.

This standard is for all youth workers, but will be of particular relevance to those with management responsibility for ensuring an effective policy for the protection of young people within their organisation.

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Performance criteria

You must be able to:

- P1 identify relevant legal, regulatory, codes of practice and duty of care requirements regarding the protection and safeguarding of young people
- P2 work within own organisation policies, practices and requirements regarding protection and safeguarding of young people
- P3 provide a safe environment for young people to meet and where they can relax, meet friends, make new relationships and have fun
- P4 ensure that colleagues and young people are aware of the policies and procedures, and the rationale for these
- P5 motivate colleagues and young people to put safeguarding policies and procedures into practice
- P6 identify agencies and partners in own and other sectors providing support and to whom referrals can be made for safeguarding and protection
- P7 work in partnership with relevant agencies to promote the welfare of young people
- P8 develop, monitor and review own organisation's policy and practices for the protection and safeguarding of young people and self
- P9 agree with relevant colleagues how to create a positive culture and climate for protection and safeguarding and good practice guidelines
- P10 agree procedures and actions to be taken to deal with and report suspicions, allegations and incidents breaching good practice
- P11 agree procedures to be followed with respect to confidentiality, disclosure and consent
- P12 continuously review recruitment checking procedures for employees and volunteers in accordance with current legislation and organisational requirements
- P13 use supervision effectively as a means of safeguarding young people
- P14 provide induction and continuous professional development support for employees and volunteers on the application of good practice procedures for the safeguarding and protection of young people and self

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Knowledge and understanding

You need to know and understand:

- K1 current legal, regulatory and codes of practice requirements and duty of care regarding the protection and safeguarding of young people
- K2 own organisational requirements, policy and practice regarding safeguarding, including obtaining informed consent when necessary
- K3 the importance of establishing policy that recognises that the safety of the young person is paramount, that all young people have the right to protection from abuse, that all suspicions and allegations of abuse will be addressed seriously, and that all staff, including volunteers, have a responsibility to report any concerns to the relevant person
- K4 principles underpinning policies and procedures to protect and safeguard young people
- K5 the importance of involving young people in the development and working of the policies and procedures, and methods of achieving this
- K6 effective methods of communicating and monitoring the policies and procedures, and of supporting the way they are applied in own organisation
- K7 ways to monitor and review the effectiveness of policies and procedures to protect and safeguard young people
- K8 actions to be taken when there has been a breach of policy or procedure
- K9 policies and procedures adopted by other organisations and partners towards protecting young people
- K10 agencies and stakeholders in own and other sectors providing support and to whom information can be obtained and referrals can be made for safeguarding and protection
- K11 the importance of encouraging exemplary behaviour towards safeguarding and protecting staff from false allegations
- K12 the limits of confidentiality, when it is important to disclose and the procedures for doing so
- K13 good practice in recruitment, induction and continuous training support for the protection and safeguarding of young people and self
- K14 the values and principles underpinning youth work

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Additional Information

Values

Working with representatives of the sectors within youth work, LSIS has agreed a suite of values and principles which distinguish youth work from other, sometimes related, activities involving young people. These values and principles are at the core of the work undertaken within youth work and underpin this standard. The behaviours required within this standard include those which reflect particular values and principles.

Behaviours

1. Model behaviour which demonstrates a commitment to the effective protection of young people
2. Challenge constructively the status quo and seek better alternatives
3. Make time available to support others

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