

## Safeguarding Policy

### 1. Introduction

Safeguarding is protecting children, young people or vulnerable adults from harm, abuse or neglect. It means protecting people's health, wellbeing and human rights. Cornwall Accessible Activity Program (CAAP) recognises that Trustees, charity members, staff, volunteers and anyone involved in our activities, all have an important role to play in safeguarding the welfare of children, young people and adults and to prevent abuse from occurring in any situation.

### 2. Definitions

All children and young people under the age of 25 are considered to be vulnerable due to their age and inexperience. An adult who may have safeguarding needs is defined in The Care Act, 2014 as an adult who:

- has needs for care and support (whether or not the local authority is meeting any of those needs) **and**
- is experiencing or is at risk of abuse or neglect **and**
- as a result of those care and support needs, is unable to protect themselves from either the risk of or the experience of abuse or neglect.

This provides a broad definition of adults who may need safeguarding support and could include individuals who may have mental health needs, be in a harmful or controlling relationship, live in a domestic abuse environment, suffer from self-harm or self-neglect, or have a physical, learning or mental health disability.

### 3. Policy statement

CAAP will ensure that:

- All children, young people and adults are safeguarded throughout our activities and operations, including raising their awareness of safeguarding issues
- all vulnerable children and adults, regardless of age, culture, disability, gender, language, racial origin, religious belief or sexual identity can exercise their right to protection from harm, neglect or abuse when engaged in activities with CAAP or in settings where they may disclose concerns about their broader lives in the community or at home
- all suspicions and allegations of abuse will be taken seriously and responded to swiftly and appropriately, with due regard to appropriate levels of privacy and the dignity of those concerned

- all Trustees, staff and volunteers are made aware of key safeguarding principles and practice through appropriate training and are required to report any disclosures, concerns or allegations in line with our procedures
- we work with partners such as the police, local councils and regulators to ensure safeguarding concerns are acted upon
- we use “Safer Recruitment” best practice when recruiting staff/volunteers to ensure their suitability to work with children and adults who may be vulnerable
- we work with key statutory and voluntary sector partners to share information and good practice to improve safeguarding within our communities and raise awareness of safeguarding issues
- we comply with any statutory responsibilities placed upon us.

## 5. Relevant Legislation

- Section 11 ‘Children Act’, 2004
- Safeguarding Vulnerable Groups Act 2006
- Care Act 2014 (safeguarding adults)
- Children and Families Act 2014

## 6. Duties and Responsibilities

The CAAP Board recognise their responsibility for implementing this policy and will follow their safeguarding procedure if a concern is raised.

All staff, volunteers and members are responsible for maintaining a vigilant approach to safeguarding, following this policy and reporting any concerns.

Any safeguarding issues should be referred to the Safeguarding Officer. If the concern relates to the Safeguarding Officer it should be referred to the Chair of Trustees.

## 7. Related documents

Safeguarding Procedure

Signed (on behalf of CAAP):

Position:

Date:

Print name: