

VOYC Devon Safeguarding Statement of Principles

1. VOYC Devon is committed to the safeguarding of all children, young people and adults at risk with whom it has contact.
2. Everyone involved in the care of children, young people and adults at risk has a responsibility for the protection of those individuals from harm. It is also essential that we honour the trust of those who allow us to care for their children, young people and adults at risk.
3. There is a duty placed on public agencies under the Human Rights Act (1998) to intervene to protect the rights of citizens. Also the Children Act (1989) makes it clear that the welfare of the child is paramount and that everyone involved in the care of children has a responsibility to protect those children from harm.
4. In order to protect everyone from potential and actual abuse it is necessary for all staff and volunteers to have an understanding of the issues involved and that appropriate procedures are in place that are shared and understood by all concerned.
5. VOYC Devon's safeguarding policy arises from the following principles:
 - The welfare of the child, young person or adult at risk is paramount;
 - Everyone, regardless of age, gender, disability or ethnic origin has a right to be protected from all forms of harm, abuse, neglect and exploitation;
 - It is not your responsibility as members of VOYC Devon to decide whether or not abuse is occurring, but it is your responsibility to act on any concerns and do something about it.

The Designated Safeguarding Officer is:

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