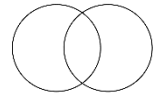


# Connections



## Safeguarding Policy

The purpose of this policy is to outline our commitment to safeguarding the welfare of all clients, especially vulnerable individuals, including children and adults at risk. This policy provides guidance to staff and associates on how to recognize and respond to safeguarding concerns

### Policy Statement

At Connections, we are dedicated to creating a safe and supportive environment for all clients and counsellors. We recognize our responsibility to safeguard and promote the welfare of individuals who use our services. This policy applies to all employees, associates, volunteers, and anyone involved in the practice.

### Definitions

- **Safeguarding:** Protecting the health, well-being, and human rights of individuals, ensuring they live free from abuse and harm.
- **Vulnerable Adults:** Individuals aged 18 and over who may be at risk of harm due to their circumstances.
- **Child:** Anyone under the age of 18.

### Legal Framework

This policy is informed by relevant legislation, including:

- Children Act 1989 and 2004
- Care Act 2014
- Safeguarding Vulnerable Groups Act 2006
- Equality Act 2010 Responsibilities

- **All Staff:** Recognize and report safeguarding concerns promptly and appropriately.
- **Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL):** [Name and contact information of the DSL] is responsible for managing safeguarding concerns and ensuring compliance with this policy.

### **Recognizing Abuse and Neglect**

Staff should be aware of the following types of abuse:

- Physical Abuse
- Emotional Abuse
- Sexual Abuse
- Neglect
- Financial Abuse

Signs of abuse may include changes in behaviour, unexplained injuries, withdrawal, or fearfulness.

### **Reporting Concerns**

- Staff must report any safeguarding concerns immediately to the managing director.
- All reports will be taken seriously and handled sensitively.
- If a client discloses abuse, listen without judgment, reassure them, and document the conversation accurately

### **Confidentiality**

All safeguarding concerns will be treated confidentially, but it is essential to inform clients that confidentiality may be breached if there is a risk of harm to themselves or others, as outlined in their contract and our privacy policy.

### **Training and Awareness**

All staff will receive regular safeguarding training to ensure they are equipped to recognize and respond to safeguarding issues.

## **Review of Policy**

This safeguarding policy will be reviewed annually or sooner if there are changes in legislation or practice.

## **Contact Information**

For any safeguarding concerns or questions, please contact:

- Designated Safeguarding Lead: Ian Nicholson-Kapasi
- Phone: 07599228095
- Email: [ian@connections counselling.co.uk](mailto:ian@connections counselling.co.uk)

**Name:** Safeguarding Policy  
**Author:** Ian Nicholson-Kapasi  
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