

Safeguarding Children and Young People Policy

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Organisation: Ditchling Museum of Art + Craft

Name of Governing Body: Ditchling Museum Trust

Date of Last Review: December 2022

Date at which this policy is due for review: December 2023

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Policy Statement

Our Safeguarding Policy and Procedures are for staff, volunteers and freelancers. The aim is to offer clear guidance and a process for safeguarding and to promote the safety and welfare of children and young people and protect them from abuse and keep them safe from harm, both whilst on the museum premises and also in regards to anything concerning that might be disclosed to a staff member, volunteer or freelance tutor which is taking place off the Museum site, in person or online.

This is of particular significance to the work of our Learning and Outreach Programme but it is important to recognise that at disclosure could take place or signs of abuse be witnessed or identified anywhere in the Museum and may be encountered by staff, volunteers and freelancers in all departments.

Many of the projects within Ditchling Museum of Art + Craft work directly with children and young people and it is therefore important that all staff, volunteers and freelancers working with or coming into contact with children and young people are aware of their responsibility regarding safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and commit to working together as well as with other agencies and that good clear communication is key to ensure that any issues are dealt with to the best of our ability.

As part of our organisation's commitment to Equality and Diversity we will give equal priority to keeping all children and young people safe regardless of their age, disability, gender, race, religion or belief, sex, or sexual orientation. All children and young people have the right to protection from abuse and harm at all times and in all situations. Child Protection is the responsibility of every adult who has involvement with children.

Ditchling Museum of Art and Craft acknowledges that some children and young people may be more vulnerable to abuse because of the impact of discrimination, previous experiences, their level of dependency, communication needs or other issues and aims to be sensitive and responsive to this.

Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility. This policy applies to anyone working on behalf of Ditchling Museum of Art and Craft, including senior managers and the board of trustees.

Definitions

Definition of a child:

A child is defined as a person under the age of 18 years (The Children Act 1989).

Definition of a young person:

A young person is not a legal term. A young person is someone who might not perceive themselves as a child, but who is still in the age range of the legal definition, and therefore falls within the term child.

We will:

- Comply with current regulations concerning the protection of children and young people and seek to regularly update our practice.
- Raise the level of awareness of staff, volunteers and freelancers about the potential abuse of children and young people
- Raise the level of awareness of staff, volunteers and freelancers about what children and young people are entitled to be protected from.
- Ensure that all staff, volunteers and freelancers are able to recognise signs, that could signify the abuse of a child/ young person.

- provide guidelines for recording and responding to alleged or suspected incidents of abuse and to complaints related to child protection.
- Ensure a child protection concern overrides issues of confidentiality as stated in the Children Act 1989.
- Provide a clear code of practice to protect Ditchling Museum of Art + Craft’s staff, volunteers and freelance tutors from the possibility of misplaced allegations regarding abuse of children and young people

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 and guidance is available from nspcc.org.uk/childprotection

In England the law states that people who work with children have to keep them safe. This safeguarding legislation is set out in [The Children Act \(1989\) and \(2004\)](#). It also features in the [United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child](#) (to which the UK is a signatory) and sets out the rights of children to be free from abuse. The Government also provides guidance in their document *‘Working Together to Safeguard Children*, March 2015.

Further guidance - Protecting children from radicalisation: The Prevent Duty July 2015
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/protecting-children-from-radicalisation-the-prevent-duty>

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

This policy was last reviewed on:2 February 2023.....

Stephane Fournier

Signed:

Date:2 February 2023.....