



SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN POLICY STATEMENT

Abuse is a violation of an individual's human and civil rights; it can take many forms. LYTTG is committed to practices which promote the welfare of children and safeguard them from harm.

LYTTG fully accepts its legal and moral obligation to protect children in the course of its work and it is our policy to make every reasonable safeguard to protect those who are involved in any aspect of our work.

LYTTG trustees, employees, teachers and volunteers accept and recognise our responsibilities to develop awareness of the issues that cause children harm, and to establish and maintain a safe environment for them. We will not tolerate any form of abuse wherever it occurs, or whoever is responsible. We are committed to promoting an atmosphere of inclusion, transparency and openness and are open to feedback from the children who use our services, parents and carers, our trustees, employees, teachers and volunteers with a view to how we may continuously improve our services/activities.

In pursuit of this, LYTTG, will endeavour to safeguard children by: Adhering to our Safeguarding Children Policy and ensuring that it is supported by robust procedures; Implementing clear procedures for raising awareness of, and responding to, abuse within the organisation and for reporting concerns to statutory agencies that need to know, whilst involving children and parents appropriately; Ensuring general safety and risk management procedures are adhered to; Ensuring all trustees, employees, teachers and volunteers report any concerns with regards to the protection of Children. **It is the responsibility of experts to determine whether or not abuse has taken place, but it is everyone's responsibility to report any concerns;** Implementing a code of behaviour for all involved with the organisation; Appointing a designated trustee to lead on safeguarding; Ensuring appropriate training is undertaken by trustees, employees, teachers and volunteers.

As defined in the Children Act 1989, anyone under the age of 18 should be considered a child.

The policies and procedures apply to everyone within LYTTG, whether in a paid or voluntary capacity, including trustees and committee members. Everyone should be aware of safeguarding procedures and best practices.

Legal and Procedural Framework

The practices and procedures within LYTTG are based on the principles contained within the UK and International legislation and Government guidance and take into account:

- Children Act 1989 (England and Wales)
- The UN Convention on the Rights of the Child 1989
- Children (Northern Ireland) Order 1995
- Children (Scotland) Act 1995
- The Protection of Children Act 1999
- The Human Rights Act 2000
- Protection of Children (Scotland) Act 2003
- Children Act 2004
- Every Child Matters 2006
- Protection of Freedoms Act 2012