



Camphill School Aberdeen

Safeguarding Child Protection and Protecting Vulnerable Adults' Policy

Purpose

To detail the policy and practices in place at CSA for child protection and the protection of vulnerable adults

Scope

This policy covers all children, young people and young adults who receive a service from or at CSA or who live on one of the estates that comprise CSA

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Record of Approval				
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Rev	Date	Author	Approved	Review due

1. Definitions and Abbreviations

Co-worker

For the specific purposes of this document, this refers to any individual working for CSA who is of **employed** and **volunteer** status

CSA

Camphill School Aberdeen

The Community

Camphill School Aberdeen and all those involved in its daily operation, encompassing all three CSA estates

Child

Anyone under the age of 16

Vulnerable Adult

People over 16 who are unable to protect themselves from harm because of a disability, mental disorder, illness, physical or mental infirmity

2. Responsibilities

2.1 Protection of Vulnerable People Officers

- To provide training either directly or indirectly to all co-workers
- Available regarding any protection issues from co-workers
- Available regarding any protection issues from pupils/young adults
- Link to Child Protection/Adult Protection Units (Aberdeen)

2.2 Co-workers

- *All co-workers have a duty to report any concern*

3. Policy

3.1 Aim

The aim of CSA is to promote good practice by providing children and vulnerable adults with appropriate safety and protection whilst in the care of CSA.

3.2 Preamble

- CSA policy follows the guidelines of the National Guidance for Child Protection in Scotland 2014 (<http://www.gov.scot/resource/0045/00450733.pdf>) and the Grampian Interagency Policy and Procedure for the Support and Protection of Adults at Risk of Harm (<http://www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/media/3846/finaladultsupportprotectionpolicy2012.pdf>).

The welfare of a child/vulnerable adult is paramount:

- All vulnerable people, whatever their age, culture, disability, gender, language, racial origin, religious beliefs and/or sexual identity have the right to protection from abuse and significant harm
- Significant harm can arise from a single event or may result from an accumulation of events or circumstances
- All suspicions and allegations of abuse and poor practice will be taken seriously and responded to swiftly and appropriately.

3.3 Different ways that vulnerable people may be harmed

- **Physical** (which includes misuse of medicines, fabricated illnesses)
- **Sexual** including (if under 16) intercourse, inappropriate touching, exposing to Internet porn, photographs/literature, language. Over 16: any of the above against the consent of the individual
- **Emotional** (belittling, consistent bullying); discriminatory treatment, e.g. sexual orientation, gender, racial, nationality
- **Financial**
- **Self-abuse**
- **Technology** (Facebook, YouTube, mobile, etc.): CSA's policy regarding social networks is that no photographs of fee-paying children/vulnerable adults are to be uploaded and no reference to an individual (resident) is to be made clearly in a blog, etc.
- **Neglect (failing to act)**: failing to provide adequate safety, shelter, clothing, food, medical support, emotional support to the child or to a vulnerable adult.

3.4 Risks which may contribute/have contributed to or cause abuse or neglect and so cause significant harm

- **Domestic abuse**
- **Alcohol misuse**
- **Substance abuse**
- **Poverty, homelessness**
- **Unemployment**
- **Physical or mental disability** of the individual or another member of the family
- **Mental health issues** of the individual or another member of the family
- **Non-engaging families**, e.g. failure to consistently attend child's doctor/dentist appointments
- **Drug abuse** by the child/vulnerable adult
- **Inappropriate sexual activity** by the individual
- **Insufficient support and guidance related to use of Internet** (e.g. chat rooms, social networks) and/or mobile phone
- **Self-harm** by the individual or another member of the family
- **Sexual orientation**
- **Gender**
- **Racial/national discrimination**
- **Child/vulnerable adult (sexual) exploitation.**

4. Procedure

If you have a concern, you have a duty and responsibility to share any suspicions or concerns with at least one of the following:

- your supervisor, senior co-worker - remember questions of confidentiality
- contact one of the child protection/protection of vulnerable adult officers
- phone Grampian Police – 101 / 999

Note: It is never appropriate for anyone with a concern to interview a child, parent or vulnerable adult except in the context of a formal investigation.

The Social Work Department or Police will decide at what point those involved will be contacted.

5. Further Reading and Associated Documents

- National Guidance for Child Protection in Scotland 2014 (<http://www.gov.scot/resource/0045/00450733.pdf>)
- Grampian Interagency Policy and Procedure for the Support and Protection of Adults at Risk of Harm (<http://www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/media/3846/finaladultsupportprotectionpolicy2012.pdf>)
- Adults at risk of harm (<http://www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/social-care-and-health/community-care/protection-and-support/adult-protection-and-support/>)
- Children (Scotland) Act (1995): individuals up to the age of 16
- Adults with Incapacity (Scotland) Act (2000)
- Mental Health (Care and Treatment) (Scotland) 2003
- Adult Support and Protection (Scotland) Act 2007
- The Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014
- Holding Safely Guidelines
- Behaviour Support Strategies