

**March 2024**

**Child and Young person Safeguarding Policy**

Alfie's Arc is fully committed to safeguarding the welfare of all children and young people in it's care. It recognises the responsibilitie's to promote safe practices and to protect children and young people from harm, abuse and exploitation. For the purposes of this policy and associated procedures a child or young person is recognised as anyone under the age of 18 years old.

Directors, staff and volunterrs will work togerther to embrace differences and diversity and respect the rights of the children and young people.

**This document outlines Alfie's Arc's commitment to protecting children.**

These guidelines are based on the following pronciples:

1 The welfare of children and young people are the primary concern

2 All children and young people, whatever their age, culture, disabulity, gender, language, racial origin, socio-economic status, religious belief and/or sexual identity have the right to protection from all forms of harm and abuse.

3 Child protection is everyone's responsibility.

4 Children and young people have the right to express views on all matters which affect them, should they wish to do so.

5 Organisations shall work in partnership together with children, young people and parents/carers to promote the welfare, health and development of children and young people.

**Alfies' Arc will:**

1 Promote the Health and Safety and welfare of chldren and young people by providing opportunities for them to take part in activities safely.

2 Respect and promote the rights, wishes and feelings of children and young people.

3 Promote and implemement appropriate procedures to safeguard the well-being of children and young people and protect them from harm and abuse.

4 Recruit, train, support and supervise it's directors, staff and volunteers to adopt best practice to safeguard and protect children and young people from abuse and to reduce risk to themselves.

5 Require directors, staff and volunteers to adopt and abide by this Child and Young persons protection policy and these procedure.

6 Respond to any allegations of misconduct or abuse of children in line with this policy and these procedures as well as implementing, where appropriate, the relevant disciplinary and appeals and complaints procedures.

7 Observe guidelines issued by local Child Protection Commitees for the protection of children.

8 Regularly monitor and evaluate the implementation of this policy and these procedures.

**Review**

This policy and these procedures will be regularly reviewed:

1 In accordance with changes in legislation and guidance on the protection of children or following any changes within Alfie's Arc.

2 Following any issues or concerns raisied about the protection of children within Alfie's Arc.

3 In all other circumstances, at least every three years