



Devon Information, Advice and Support

Safeguarding/Child Protection Policy February 2015

Safeguarding/Child Protection

Our service supports children and young people with special education needs and disabilities and their parent/carers. These groups statistically are more vulnerable to abuse. All staff and volunteers have a duty to pass on any information in relation to risk or suspected abuse of a child or vulnerable adult.

We aim to contribute to a culture of open referral regarding the safety of a child, young person or vulnerable adult.

Objectives – what we do to further our aim:

- Raise awareness with service users – by explaining the exception to our [confidentiality policy](#).
- Provide training and support for staff including DIAS volunteers in line with DCC policy.
- Promote enquiry of and respect for the child and young person's view.
- Ensure careful recruitment of all staff and DIAS volunteer including a DBS (Disclosure and Barring Service) check.
- Support an active procedure for reporting information about abuse or possible abuse.
- We will sign post to further support when there is risk of has been abuse in their family.
- Provide a follow up call to parents or young people when they've had support from a DIAS volunteer.

Procedure:

DIAS staff and DIAS volunteers follow Devon County Council's safeguarding reporting process;

- We report our concerns to Devon's MASH (Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub).
- MASH 'will analyse information that is already known within separate organisations in a coherent format to inform all safeguarding decisions'.
- The opportunity to discuss safeguarding at every supervision session.

Bullying

Statistics indicate that children, young people and adults with special needs and disabilities are more likely to be bullied.

We aim to contribute to a culture of developing active policies and open enquiry regarding the wellbeing of a child or vulnerable adult when they are bullied.

Objectives – what we do to further our aim:

- Raise awareness with service users..
- Provide training and support for staff.
- Promote enquiry of and respect for the child's view.
- Work with schools to promote active and robust anti-bullying policies.
- We will provide information and signpost to further support and strategies when a child or young person is being bullied.