

REACH SAFEGUARDING PROCEDURES

RESPONSIBILITIES OF SAFEGUARDING LEADS¹



- Deborah Bond, Safeguarding Lead deborahb@reach.org.uk 0845 130 6225
- Julie Detheridge, Trustee Lead for Safeguarding julied@reach.org.uk 07847010676

It is the responsibility of the Safeguarding Lead and the Trustee Safeguarding Lead to:

- Be fully familiar with Reach's duties in relation to the safeguarding of children.
- Have good knowledge of Reach's guiding principles and child safeguarding procedures.
- Ensure that Reach's reporting procedure is followed, so that child protection and welfare concerns are referred promptly to the appropriate statutory authorities.
- Receive child protection and welfare concerns from workers and volunteers and consider if reasonable grounds for reporting to the statutory authorities exist.
- Consult informally with the NSPCC, Tusla or local authority social workers if necessary.
- Where appropriate, make a formal report of a child protection or welfare concern to Tusla on behalf of their organisation, using the Child Protection and Welfare Report Form.
- Inform the child's parents/guardians that a report is to be submitted to the local authority's social services department, Tusla or the police, unless:
 - informing the parents/guardians is likely to endanger the child or young person;
 - informing the parents/guardians may place you at risk of harm from the family;
 - the family's knowledge of the report could impair the statutory authorities' ability to carry out an assessment.
- Record all concerns or allegations of child abuse brought to your attention as well as any action/inaction taken in response to these concerns.
- Provide feedback to the referrer, as appropriate (only if advised to do so by the statutory authorities - and this is unlikely to be required).
- Ensure that a secure system is in place to manage confidential records.
- Act as a liaison with the statutory authorities, as appropriate.
- Where requested, jointly report with statutory office-holders or professionals with expertise in child protection.

Last reviewed: April 2020

Next review due: April 2021

¹ These roles fulfil the function of Designated Safeguarding Lead and Lead Safeguarding Trustee (UK) and Designated Liaison Person/Deputy Designated Liaison Person (Ireland).