



LISTENai

SAFEGUARDING POLICY 2026/2027

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1. Policy Statement LISTENai is committed to protecting the safety and well-being of all individuals who engage with our services, particularly children, young people, and vulnerable adults. We believe that no one should experience abuse of any kind, and we have a responsibility to promote the welfare of all our participants to keep them safe.

2. Scope This policy applies to all staff, volunteers, sessional workers, agency staff, students, and anyone engaged by LISTENai.

3. Our Commitments We are committed to:

- **Prioritising Safety:** The welfare of the child or vulnerable adult is paramount.
- **Safe Recruitment:** Ensuring all staff and volunteers are suitable to work with vulnerable groups through appropriate checks (e.g., DBS checks where required).
- **Training:** Providing appropriate safeguarding training and supervision for all staff and volunteers.
- **Reporting:** Ensuring all concerns, suspicions, and allegations of abuse are taken seriously and responded to swiftly and appropriately.

4. Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL)

- **Name:** [Available by Request]
- **Contact:** [Available by Request]
- **Email:** [Available by Request]
- **Role:** The DSL is responsible for dealing with any safeguarding concerns and serving as the main point of contact for external agencies.

5. Recognising and Responding to Abuse Abuse can take many forms, including physical, emotional, sexual, neglect, and financial abuse.

- **If you are concerned:** Do not ignore it. Record the facts as you know them and report them immediately to the Designated Safeguarding Lead.
- **If a person discloses abuse:** Listen carefully, stay calm, do not promise confidentiality (explain you may need to share this to keep them safe), and report it to the DSL.

6. Online and Digital Safeguarding

Given the digital nature of LISTENai, we adhere to strict online safety protocols:

- All digital communications are encrypted where possible (as per our Data Protection Policy).

- We maintain professional boundaries in all online interactions.
- We respond to any concerns of cyber-bullying or online exploitation immediately.

7. Confidentiality and Information Sharing

We expect all staff and volunteers to maintain confidentiality. However, information will be shared with external agencies (such as Social Services or the Police) when there is a risk of harm to an individual, in line with our legal obligations and Data Protection Policy.

8. Policy Review

This policy will be reviewed annually or sooner if there are changes in legislation or significant events.

Date of Last Review: January 2026

Next Review Date: January 2027