

CANter Equine Assisted Learning & Psychotherapy

Safeguarding Adults Policy

1. Introduction

CANter Equine Assisted Learning & Psychotherapy C.I.C is a non-for-profit organisation run by:

Suzanne Adamthwaite Equine Specialist
Denise Sadleir Equine Assisted Psychotherapist

2. Location of Premises:

The Stables, Lower Gravenhurst, Beds MK45 4HL

3.

CANter Equine Assisted Learning & Psychotherapy is managed by a management team who all have particular responsibility for safeguarding children.

2. Link with other policies- Safeguarding for Children.

3. Definitions

This policy relates to adults who may have care and support needs, whose independence and wellbeing would be at risk, permanently or periodically, if they did not receive appropriate support and who may be at risk of abuse, maltreatment or neglect. This includes adults with physical, sensory and mental impairments and learning disabilities however those impairments have arisen e.g. whether present from birth or due to advancing age, chronic illness or injury, and those who may or may not be eligible for community care services whose needs in relation to Safeguarding is for access to mainstream services and the police, or who are unable to protect themselves. This policy also includes any individual who may be at risk as a consequence of their role as a carer in relation to any of the above.

The duty to identify abuse and report it applies to all staff, including senior managers and the board of trustees, paid staff, volunteers and sessional workers, agency staff, students or anyone working on behalf of Canter Equine Assisted Learning & Psychotherapy C.I.C.

4. Nominated safeguarding lead person

The nominated person Suzanne Adamthwaite should be notified immediately by any staff or volunteers who have concerns about a vulnerable adult if:

- abuse, maltreatment or neglect are occurring or suspected
- someone has behaved towards a vulnerable adult in a way that indicates they may pose a risk of harm

The nominated person will provide advice and support to staff unsure about how to proceed with a particular case, and take line management responsibility for the safe delivery, quality and effectiveness of Canter Equine Assisted Learning & Psychotherapy C.I.C services. The nominated person is responsible for ensuring Canter Equine Assisted Learning & Psychotherapy C.I.C is aware of developments in safeguarding best practice, advising on changes to policy and practice (in line with Local Safeguarding Board policies) and coordinating safeguarding audits and reporting.

One of Canter Equine Assisted Learning & Psychotherapy C.I.C **directors** is nominated to take leadership responsibility for the organisation's safeguarding arrangements. This includes ensuring that staff have sufficient time, funding, supervision and support to fulfil their safeguarding responsibilities effectively;

5. How to raise concerns

- If someone is at immediate risk of harm, dial 999 for the police
- Contact Denise Sadleir by phone 07895943034 or email Cantereal@gmail.com as soon as possible. A decision will be made which includes whether to make a referral, who will make the referral, and how information about the concern will be securely recorded, stored and, if appropriate shared.
- To report a concern or to get advice:
 - Bedford Borough Council: 01234 276222 ○
 - Central Bedfordshire Council: 0300 300 8122 ○
 - Luton Borough Council: 01582 547730 ○
 - Out of office hours: 0300 300 8123

6. How to report an allegation made against staff or volunteers

An allegation may relate to a person who works with vulnerable adults who has:

- behaved in a way that has harmed, or may have harmed a vulnerable adult;
- behaved towards a vulnerable adult in a way that indicates they may pose a risk of harm

Any such allegation should be reported immediately to Suzanne Adamthwaite. The relevant local authority should be informed within one working day of all allegations (by contacting the Local Authority Designated Officer LADO).

The local authority will provide advice and guidance on how to deal with allegations against people who work with vulnerable adults and will also ensure that there are appropriate arrangements in place to effectively liaise with the police and other agencies to monitor the progress of cases and ensure that they are dealt with as quickly as possible, consistent with a thorough and fair process. Support and advice will be available to individuals against whom allegations have been made.

If Canter Equine Assisted Learning & Psychotherapy C.I.C removes an individual (paid worker or unpaid volunteer) from work (or would have, had the person not left first) because the person poses a risk of harm to children, the organisation must make a referral to the Disclosure and Barring Service. It is an offence to fail to make a referral without good reason.

7. Information sharing

Canter Equine Assisted Learning & Psychotherapy C.I.C will co-operate in the sharing of appropriate information based on the principles defined below:

- Information will be shared on a need to know basis when it is in the best interest of the individual and especially to protect people with care and support needs.
- Confidentiality must not be confused with secrecy
- Informed consent must be obtained, but if this is not possible and other adults are at risk, it may be necessary to override the requirement
- It is inappropriate to give absolute confidentiality in cases where there are concerns about abuse, particularly when other people may be at risk or there is a legal duty to report criminal activity.
- Any exchange of information must be in accordance with the Data Protection Act 1998, the Human Rights Act 1998, and Caldicott Principles

Canter Equine Assisted Learning & Psychotherapy C.I.C will keep secure records of any work undertaken under this policy including all concerns received and all referrals made, and the Canter Equine Assisted Learning & Psychotherapy C.I.C will ensure all staff and volunteers are aware of;

- the signs of abuse and neglect,
- how to handle a disclosure
- through induction, training and supervision.

The seriousness or extent of abuse is often not clear when anxiety is first expressed. If a member of staff or volunteer is in any way concerned, they should raise their concerns with the nominated safeguarding lead person.