

## **SEND Assist – Safeguarding Policy**

### **Our Commitment**

At SEND Assist, we are committed to keeping children and young people safe. We believe that all children, including those with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND), have the right to feel safe, be heard, and be protected from harm.

### **Who This Applies To**

This policy applies to all SEND Assist staff, volunteers, and anyone working on our behalf.

### **What We Mean by Safeguarding**

Safeguarding means protecting children and young people from:

Abuse (physical, emotional, sexual)

Neglect

Exploitation

Harm to their health or development

Our Approach

### **We will:**

Listen to children, young people, and parent carers

Take all concerns seriously

Act quickly if we are worried about a child's safety

Work with other services (e.g. schools, social care, health professionals) when needed

Follow UK safeguarding laws and guidance



## **What You Can Expect From Us**

When you work with SEND Assist:

You will be treated with respect and without judgement

Your concerns will be listened to and taken seriously

Information will be handled sensitively and shared only when necessary to keep someone safe

We will explain what happens next if a safeguarding concern is raised

## **Raising a Safeguarding Concern**

If we believe a child or young person is at risk of harm:

We have a duty to share this information with the appropriate authorities (e.g. children's social care)

Wherever possible, we will inform you before sharing information, unless doing so would increase risk

## **Confidentiality**

We respect your privacy. However, safeguarding concerns cannot be kept confidential if a child is at risk. In these situations, we must share information to protect them.

## **If You Are Worried About a Child**

If you have concerns about a child or young person, you can:

Speak to SEND Assist

Contact your local safeguarding team

Call the NSPCC Helpline: 0808 800 5000

If a child is in immediate danger, always call 999.

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