

# Safeguarding Children and Vulnerable Adults is Everyone's Responsibility

Everyone has the right to be safe and protected from fear, violence and abuse. Children or a vulnerable Adult may be unable to take care of themselves or protect themselves from harm or exploitation.

Abuse can be a single act or it can continue over a long time and may take many different forms.

Christadelphian Support Network (CSN) Trustees

July 2019

## Who is a child?

A child is a person under 18 years of age

## Who is a Vulnerable Adult?

- Anyone over age 18 who has needs for care and support (whether or not the local authority is meeting any of those needs) and
- is experiencing, or is at risk of, abuse or neglect and, as a result of those care and support needs, is unable to protect themselves from either the risk of or the experience of abuse or neglect.

An adult at risk of abuse may:

- have an illness affecting their mental or physical health have a learning disability
- suffer from drug or alcohol problems
- be frail

## Examples of abuse

### Physical abuse

- Injuring someone by hitting, slapping, pushing, kicking or restraining
- Misuse of medication
- Poisoning, drowning, suffocating and fabricated or induced illness

### Sexual abuse

- Rape, sexual assault or pressuring someone into sexual acts they have not consented to, do not understand or feel powerless to refuse.
- grooming, sexual exploitation or activities that involve watching sexual acts whether or not the child is aware of what is happening.

### Financial or material abuse

- Theft, fraud, misuse of property or possessions.

## **Emotional abuse**

- Humiliation, blaming, controlling, coercion, intimidation, harassment, verbal abuse, or withdrawal of services or supportive networks.
- Verbal abuse is showing disrespect and verbally or publicly humiliating someone.

## **Neglect**

- Failure to meet someone's basic physical and/or emotional needs, for example not providing food, hydration, warmth or shelter resulting in impairment of their health and development.
- Poor professional practice, withholding medication or ignoring physical care needs
- For children, this may mean witnessing domestic abuse; missing hospital appointments and not protecting from danger.

## **Discrimination abuse**

- Comments based on a person's race, gender, age religion or sexual orientation.

## What to do now?

If you have concerns about the welfare of a child or vulnerable Adult, you can discuss these with our designated Safeguarding Person.

Name Andrew Collinge

Phone Number 07836378287

Or

Name Gill Holden

[gill.holden@chsn.org.uk](mailto:gill.holden@chsn.org.uk)

This Safeguarding Policy has been created because of the concerns of the Trustees that children and vulnerable Adults should be properly cared for, guided and protected, and that members of the CSN should act responsibly in these matters.

All those involved with support work will be provided with a copy of the full policy and will be familiar with its contents.

The CSN Safeguarding Policy is available on request.