

## Safeguarding policy – Mindful Magic

### The purpose and scope of this policy

The purpose of this policy is:

- to protect children and young people who attend Mindful Magic sessions. This includes the children of adults who use our services
- to provide parents, staff and volunteers with the overarching principles that guide our approach to child protection.

Adherence to this policy is compulsory as part of every Mindful Magic Mentor's membership agreement, as well as the Founder and anyone else working paid or unpaid for Mindful Magic.

### Legal framework

This policy has been drawn up on the basis of legislation, policy and guidance that seeks to protect children in England & Wales. A summary of the key legislation is available from [nspcc.org.uk/learning](https://www.nspcc.org.uk/learning).

We believe that:

- children and young people should never experience abuse of any kind
- we have a responsibility to promote the welfare of all children and young people, to keep them safe and to practise in a way that protects them.

We recognise that:

- the welfare of the child is paramount
- all children, regardless of age, disability, gender reassignment, race, religion or belief, sex, or sexual orientation have a right to equal protection from all types of harm or abuse
- some children are additionally vulnerable because of the impact of previous experiences, their level of dependency, communication needs or other issues
- working in partnership with children, young people, their parents, carers and other agencies is essential in promoting young people's welfare.

We will seek to keep children and young people safe by:

- valuing, listening to and respecting them
- adopting child protection and safeguarding best practice through our policies, procedures and code of conduct for all staff and members with licences for the Mindful Magic brand
- providing effective supervision, support, training and quality assurance measures for all members with licences for the Mindful Magic brand
- ensuring all Mindful Magic Mentors have gained DBS checks before embarking on their membership
- recording and storing information professionally and securely

- sharing information about safeguarding and good practice with children, their families, staff and volunteers
- using our safeguarding procedures to share concerns and relevant information with agencies who need to know, and involving children, young people, parents, families and carers appropriately
- using our procedures to manage any allegations against staff or facilitators effectively
- ensuring that we all provide a safe physical environment for our children, young people, staff and volunteers, by applying health and safety measures in accordance with the law and regulatory guidance

In this regard, it is the responsibility of each Mindful Magic Mentor to:

- ensure all parents/guardians give written consent for their child to participate in Mindful Magic activities
- ensure all parents/guardians give written consent for their child to be photographed during Mindful Magic sessions
- ensure parents understand that Mindful Magic should not replace any form of medical support, counselling or therapy, and is regarded as an extra-curricular activity in and of itself

In regards to online sessions, it is the responsibility of each Mindful Magic Mentor to:

- make sure that sessions that include children participating are not recorded
- ensure that parents give written consent for their child to participate in a session through the relevant online platform (i.e. Zoom)
- ensure that parents understand the importance of remaining in the room and that they are responsible for their child's health and safety during the session
- set passwords for meetings to ensure the highest level of security
- keep personal identifiable details, such as phone number and surnames, private
- keep a register of attendees to make sure nobody intrudes in the group.
- mute participants on entry, only allow the host to share the screen, and disable the ability to join before the host where possible (all possible using Zoom)

#### Dealing with disclosures and concerns about a child or young person

It is the responsibility of each Mindful Magic Mentor to:

- receive and record information of concern
- consult with, pass on information to and receive information from statutory child protection agencies, such as the local authority children's social care department and the police. This includes making formal referrals to these agencies when necessary.
- consult with the NSPCC when such support is needed 0808 800 5000
- make the Founder of Mindful Magic aware if any cause of concern has been raised
- be familiar with and work within local inter-agency child protection procedures developed by the local safeguarding children board.
- be familiar with issues relating to child protection and abuse, and keep up to date with new developments in this area.
- complete the NSPCC Introduction to Child Protection training as part of the Mindful Mentor training and membership

NSPCC Helpline 0808 800 5000

We are committed to reviewing our policy and good practice annually. This policy was last reviewed on: 03/04/2020

Signed: K. Hill Date: 03/04/2020