**Loose End Newbury**

**Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy v1.0.**

**9th January 2023**

**Loose Ends Newbury Policy Statement**

Loose Ends Newbury (LEN) provides hot meals, food parcels, essential personal items, and clothing to vulnerable and homeless people in and around Newbury, Berkshire. In furtherance of this objective Loose Ends Newbury is also planning the provision of drop-in sessions for parents/carers and their children at which hot meals are served and some play and education activities for the accompanying children offered.

 The purpose of this policy statement is:

* to protect children and young people who receive LEN’s services from harm. This includes the children of adults who use our services
* to provide staff and volunteers, as well as children and young people and their families, with the overarching principles that guide our approach to child protection.

This policy applies to anyone working on behalf of Loose Ends Newbury including trustees, paid staff (if employed), volunteers, sessional workers, agency staff, contractors and students.

**Legal Framework**

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

**Supporting Documents**

This policy statement should be read alongside our organisational policies, procedures, guidance, and other related documents:

* role description for the designated safeguarding officer
* dealing with disclosures and concerns about a child or young person
* managing allegations against staff and volunteers
* recording concerns and information sharing
* child protection records retention and storage
* code of conduct for staff and volunteers
* behaviour codes for children and young people
* photography and sharing images guidance
* safer recruitment
* anti-bullying
* managing complaints
* whistleblowing
* health and safety
* induction, training, supervision and support

**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 work in a way that protects them.

**We recognise that:**

* the welfare of children is paramount in all the work we do and in all the decisions we take
* working in partnership with children, young people, their parents, carers and other agencies is essential in promoting young people’s welfare
* all children, regardless of age, disability, gender reassignment, race, religion or belief, sex, or sexual orientation have an equal right to 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
* extra safeguards may be needed to keep children who are additionally vulnerable safe from abuse.

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

* valuing, listening to and respecting them
* appointing a nominated child protection lead for children and young people who shall be a Trustee and a deputy child protection lead,
* adopting child protection and safeguarding best practice through our policies, procedures, and code of conduct for staff (if employed) and volunteers
* developing and implementing an effective online safety policy and related procedures
* providing effective management for staff (if employed) and volunteers through supervision, support, training, and quality assurance measures so that all staff and volunteers know about and follow our policies, procedures, and behaviour codes confidently and competently
* recruiting and selecting staff (if employed) and volunteers safely, ensuring all necessary checks are made
* recording and storing and using information professionally and securely, in line with data protection legislation and guidance
* sharing information about safeguarding and good practice with children and their families via leaflets, posters, group work and one-to-one discussions
* making sure that children, young people, and their families know where to go for help if they have a concern
* using our safeguarding and child protection 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 and volunteers appropriately
* creating and maintaining an anti-bullying environment and ensuring that we have a policy and procedure to help us deal effectively with any bullying that does arise
* ensuring that we have effective complaints and whistleblowing measures in place
* ensuring that we provide a safe physical environment for our children, young people, staff (if employed), and volunteers, by applying health and safety measures in accordance with the law and regulatory guidance
* building a safeguarding culture where staff (if employed) and volunteers, children, young people, and their families, treat each other with respect and are comfortable about sharing concerns.

**Contact details**

**Nominated child protection lead**

Name: Ian Nichol

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Email: Ian5nichol@gmail.com

**Deputy child protection lead(s)**

Name: Pat Burke

Tel: 07970 565572

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**NSPCC Helpline 0808 800 5000**

**Reporting a Child Safeguarding Concern in West Berkshire**

<https://www.berkshirewestsafeguardingchildrenpartnership.org.uk/scp/report-safeguarding-concerns/concerned-about-a-child-in-west-berkshire>

We are committed to reviewing our policy and good practice annually. This policy was last reviewed on: 9th January 2023

**Signed**: 

Trustee Safeguarding Lead

**Date:** 16th January 2023