



Curious Motion – Safeguarding Policy Children, Young People, and Adults at Risk

Curious Motion CIC acknowledges the duty of care to safeguard and promote the welfare of children, young people, and adults at risk, and is committed to ensuring safeguarding practice reflects statutory responsibilities, government guidance and complies with best practice.

The health, safety and wellbeing of children, young people and adults at risk involved in our activities are of paramount importance. We respect the people who participate in our activities and recognise that the welfare and interests of all vulnerable people are paramount in all circumstances. We aim to ensure that regardless of age, ability or disability, gender reassignment, race, religion or belief, sex or sexual orientation, socio-economic background, all children, young people, and adults at risk

- have a positive and enjoyable experience of our activities in a safe and person-centred environment
- are protected from abuse whilst participating in our activities or outside of the activity.

Curious Motion acknowledges that some children and vulnerable people, including disabled children/ young people or disabled adults, or those from ethnic minority communities, can be particularly vulnerable to abuse and we accept the responsibility to take reasonable and appropriate steps to ensure their welfare.

As part of our safeguarding policy Curious Motion will:

- promote and prioritise the safety and wellbeing of children, young people, and adults at risk.
- create an environment where people feel secure, have their viewpoints valued, are encouraged to talk, and are listened to. 11 SEP
- monitor any children, young people or adults who have been identified as being “at risk”
- ensure everyone understands their roles and responsibilities in respect of safeguarding and is provided with appropriate learning opportunities to recognise, identify and respond to signs of abuse, neglect and other safeguarding concerns relating to children, young people, and adults at risk.
- ensure appropriate action is taken in the event of incidents/ concerns of abuse and support provided to the individual(s) who raise or disclose the concern
- ensure that confidential, detailed, and accurate records of all safeguarding concerns are maintained and securely stored
- prevent the employment/ deployment of unsuitable individuals
- ensure robust safeguarding arrangements and procedures are in operation, including enhanced DBS checks and a minimum of two references for all staff and volunteers working with children, young people, and/ or adults at risk.

The policy and procedures will be widely promoted and are mandatory for everyone involved in Curious Motion. Failure to comply with the policy and procedures will be addressed without delay and may ultimately result in dismissal/exclusion from the organisation.

Procedures

All staff, artists, practitioners and volunteers are responsible for ensuring the people in their care are safe. Any concerns must be reported immediately to the Designated Safeguarding Lead - Samantha McCormick. Abuse can be of a sexual, emotional or physical nature. It can also be the result of neglect.

All staff, artists, practitioners and volunteers will liaise closely with the Designated Safeguarding Lead will respond to their safeguarding procedures fully. All parties involved handle such investigations in a sensitive manner, but the interest of the child, young person, or adult at risk is of paramount importance.

If a person alleges abuse, the staff member, artist, practitioner or volunteer will liaise closely with the Designated Safeguarding Lead. Staff, artists, practitioners and volunteers will take advice at all times from the Designated Safeguarding Lead.

We regard all information related to individual safeguarding issues as confidential and we treat this accordingly. We only pass information on to appropriate persons. We inform the child/ young person/ adult at risk in all stages of who is involved and what information we have given them. All team members are aware that they cannot promise a person confidentiality.

We recognise that colleagues working with a person who has suffered harm or appears to be likely to suffer harm may find the situation stressful and upsetting; and we will give them the opportunity to talk through their anxieties and seek further support.

We require all staff, artists, practitioners and volunteers commissioned on our activities to have a current (within 3 years) enhanced Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) certificate in order to ensure that there is no evidence of offences involving children, young people, adults at risk or abuse. Certificates are checked/ renewed every three years in accordance with their date of issue.

Online Delivery

In April 2020 we introduced online delivery to our activities, and we recognise that working in this way has its own specific safeguarding requirements. We have risk assessed this and have full procedures in place to ensure children, young people and adults at risk who access our online activities remain safe. This includes:

- A company Zoom account, password protected and used by our artists/ practitioners only.
- All live Zoom classes require a password and have the waiting room feature enabled.
- Participants register in advance so our artists/ practitioners know who to expect and can admit them individually from the waiting room.
- All sessions involving children, young people, or adults at risk to have the private chat function disabled.
- Participants are given full safety information in advance when registering for our classes.
- Parents/ carers/ support workers to be present with the child /person they support, at all times.

Training

All staff are to have completed training in child protection and safeguarding adults at risk every two years. The Designated Safeguarding Lead is to undertake more in-depth training every two years and attend refresher courses annually where possible.

Legal Framework

This policy has been drawn up on the basis of law and guidance that seeks to protect children, young people and adults at risk, namely:

- Children Act 1989
- United Convention of the Rights of the Child 1991
- Data Protection Act 1998
- Sexual Offences Act 2003
- Children Act 2004
- Protection of Freedoms Act 2012
- Relevant government guidance on safeguarding children and adults at risk.

Monitoring

We are committed to reviewing our policy and good practice annually.
Last reviewed March 2022

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'S. A. McCormick', with a horizontal line underneath.

SIGNED:

Name: Samantha McCormick

Role: Artistic Director / Designated Safeguarding Lead