

Child Protection and Safeguarding – Information and Resources

What to do if you are concerned about a child

*** If your child is in immediate danger you should always phone 999 ****

If you have concerns about a child that are not an emergency, contact the specialist team at the **AfC Single Point of Access (SPA)** on 020 8547 5008 (Monday to Friday 8am-6pm) or out of hours 020 8770 5000. The SPA team are specifically trained to handle your enquiries, liaising with other teams to investigate concerns. The team also provides information and advice across a range of child and family services and is open to all (practitioner/member of the public).

The Local Area Designated Officer (LADO) works within Children's Services (AfC). They should be informed of all cases in which it is alleged that a person who works or volunteers with children has:

- behaved in a way that has harmed, or may have harmed, a child
- possibly committed a criminal offence against children, or related to a child
- or behaved towards a child or children in a way that indicates they are unsuitable to work with children.

Contact the LADO via the AfC Single Point of Access on 020 8547 5008. More information about the LADO Service can be found [here](#).

Charity Trustees Responsibilities

The Charity Commission is very clear that all trustees of a charity (including management committee members of those that are too small to be registered) hold responsibility for safeguarding and must proactively take steps to prevent people, both children and adults, from being harmed through contact with their organisation. Click on the title below for the Charity Commission guidance:

[Safeguarding and Protecting People for Charities and Trustees](#)

[NCVO Safeguarding for Trustees Resource](#)

[NSPCC Learning: Keeping Children Safe in the Voluntary and Community](#)

Sector - these resources include a safeguarding tool kit, case studies and sample policies.

Duty to Refer

If you remove a worker or volunteer from working in a regulated activity with children or adults in risk (or would have if they had not left first) because they pose a risk of harm to a child or vulnerable adult, you **must** make a referral to the Disclosure and Barring Service. Click on the following link for the government guidance - [DBS Barring Referral Guidance](#).

The Kingston and Richmond Safeguarding Childrens Partnership

(KRSCP) exists to ensure that everyone is working together for the safety and wellbeing of children and young people. It is made up of a named group of multi-agency professionals and is independently chaired. [Heather Mathew](#) from Richmond CVS represents the voluntary sector on the KRSCP. For more information about the partnership and its activities and information and resources for practitioners, parents and carers, and children and young people, visit the [KRSCP website](#)

[Safeguarding Training](#)

A range of training including a Level 1 online safeguarding children's awareness course is available from [Achieving for Children workforce development](#). This is a really valuable resource, giving Richmond based voluntary and community sector organisations the opportunity to train with multiagency professionals on a wide range of safeguarding related topics. Online and classroom-based learning is available.

NSPCC 24-hour Helpline - 0800 800 5000

(National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children)

The Child Online Protection Unit (CEOP) works across the UK tackling child sex abuse and providing advice for parents, young people and practitioners. The CEOP education website [Think U Know](#) has a wide range of online resources and information suitable for all ages. The [CEOP Safety Centre](#) is a one-stop shop for all online protection information and reporting concerns.

DBS Checks for Staff and Volunteers

Information about DBS requirements and a directory of online checking agencies can be found [here](#)

Heather Mathew

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Heather is a member of the Kingston and Richmond Safeguarding Partnership and represents the voluntary sector. If you need advice on policy and procedures or local advice on matters relating to child protection and safeguarding responsibilities within the voluntary sector please get in touch by emailing heatherm@richmondcvvs.org.uk.

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