

Berwick Community Trust Child Protection Policy Statement

Introduction

The purpose of this policy is to ensure that the children involved both directly and indirectly with us, or we come into contact with have the highest degree of safety and protection we are able to provide. We comply with the Children's Act, and have committed ourselves to protecting and ensuring children's rights and have agreed to hold ourselves accountable for this commitment.

Statement of Policy

- Staff refers to all full-time, part-time, temporary, agency, volunteers and students
- All BCT staff will report any suspicions, allegations or witnessing of any type of abuse to a child to their BCT manager
- Staff will receive documented training in child protection issues and procedures
- All offices must have an accessible copy of their Safeguarding Children Procedures and all staff must be aware of these procedures and adhere to them
- All accusations, disclosures and incidents will be taken seriously and acted on immediately

Relevant Procedures

If a child is in imminent danger staff, volunteers and students are to take immediate action by calling 999 to keep a child safe.

Staff/Volunteers/Students responsibilities in all cases

- No staff or volunteer is to investigate any accusation, disclosure or incident
- If the situation is not an emergency, staff are to notify their manager
- Staff then call the social care number posted or the police depending upon the conversation with the BCT manager
- Staff then fill out an Incident Form including outcomes when known

Management Responsibilities

- All appropriate staff will be trained on Child Protection issues and Local Safeguarding Children procedures with documentation of the training kept up to date so they understand roles and responsibilities
- To ensure that all aspects of this policy are kept up to date in line with current legislation