Safeguarding resources

We've compiled the best guidance, templates, videos and other resources to support you develop your safeguarding policies and practices – whatever stage in the journey you're at.

We've included the audience for each resource. Because safeguarding responsibilities are different depending on whether you work with people under or over the age of 18, we've used the following terms:

- **Child:** any child or young person under the age of 18.

- **Adult at risk:** anyone aged 18 or over who has needs for care and support and is experiencing, or is at risk of, abuse or neglect. As a result of those care and support needs, they may be unable to protect themselves. The Ann Craft trust provides more information about the definition of "adult at risk".

- **Adult:** anyone aged 18 or over, whether or not they are also an adult risk.

- **Young person:** there is no set definition of a young person, but this encompasses older children and young adults.

Where to start?

If you're getting started with safeguarding or haven't reviewed your safeguarding measures for some time, the amount of resources out there can seem overwhelming. We've synthesised some key resources and sources of advice.

NSPCC

Audience: Organisations and practitioners working with children.

Key resources:

- [NSPCC's safeguarding checklist](#) to help you self-assess your organisation's approach to safeguarding and identify next steps.

- [NSPCC's introductory guide to safeguarding](#) for the voluntary and community sector.

Ann Craft Trust

Audience: organisations and practitioners working with adults.

Key resources:

- [Ann Craft Trust's safeguarding checklist](#) to help you assess your understanding of safeguarding and whether you have the relevant policies in place.

- [Ann Craft Trust's guide to safeguarding adults.](#)

NCVO

Audience: Charities, community and voluntary organisations working with children and/or adults.

Key resources:

- [NCVO's getting started with safeguarding](#) resource, which summarises the Charity Commission's safeguarding principles and provides links to further guidance.

- [Local and national support](#) – guidance and links to further support with safeguarding.

Youth Music

Audience: Music practitioners working with children and/or adults

Key resource:

- [Youth Music's Introduction to Safeguarding video](#) will help build knowledge of safeguarding practices and concepts. Produced as part of Youth Music's Exchanging Notes series, it provides practical examples for people working with music with young people.

Local authorities

Audience: Organisations working with children and/or adults at risk.

Every local authority works in partnership with children's services, the police and other agencies to protect children who are at risk of harm, abuse or neglect. Every local authority will also have a safeguarding adults board that works with partners and agencies to protect adults at risk in the local area.

The local authority will have policies and procedures that local services should follow. They can offer support and training in developing your safeguarding policies and practices.

- [Find your local authority's website](). Search for "child safeguarding", "child protection services", or "adult safeguarding" on their website to find out about the guidance and support they can provide.

- Ann Craft Trust provides a tool to [find your local adult safeguarding board]().

Deeper Dive

If you're looking to further develop your approach to safeguarding, here are some more in-depth resources to help you identify the next steps.

NSPCC's Safeguarding and child protection standards for the voluntary and community sector

Audience: Organisations working with children.

This resource is designed to help non-statutory organisations in the UK to strengthen their safeguarding and child protection arrangements for children and young people aged 0–18.

NSPCC's Safeguarding adults and children podcast

Audience: Organisations working with children and adults.

This podcast looks at how voluntary and community organisations can safeguard mixed-age group delivery.

UK Youth's Safe Spaces Framework

Audience: Organisations working with young people.

This framework sets out what it considers to be the minimum levels of safe organisational practice in a number of different areas, including Health and Safety, Safeguarding, and Leadership and Governance.

NCVO's Safeguarding mini-site

Audience: Charities, community and voluntary organisations working with children and/or adults.

This includes resources on steps to a safer organisation, training and support for safeguarding, and specialist safeguarding guides for different job roles in community organisations.

Ann Craft Trust's Safeguarding resource hub

Audience: Organisations working with adults.

This resource provides a range of guidance around safeguarding adults.

Ann Craft Trust's Safeguarding Matters podcast series

Audience: Organisations working with young people and adults.

These podcasts cover recent topics and issues in adult and young people safeguarding.

Youth Music's safeguarding guidance and considerations as organisations move learning online

Audience: Organisations working with children and young people.

In April 2020, Youth Music ran a virtual network meeting on safeguarding online learning. This blog summarises the key learning from the session and signposts to further resources.

[National Youth Agency's Safeguarding and Risk Management Hub](#)

Audience: Organisations working with young people.

A wide range of guidance, resources, templates and checklists around safeguarding young people. They offer four free online training courses, which you can work through in your own time:

- Basic introduction to safeguarding for volunteer youth workers

- Safer environments and activities

- An introduction to risk assessment for the youth sector

- Setting up your safeguarding culture

There is a "Contact the Safeguarding and Risk Management Hub" enquiry form, for advice on non-urgent safeguarding questions.

Developing a safeguarding culture

[Youth Music's Putting the spotlight on safeguarding article](#)

Audience: Organisations working with children and young people.

This article explains why safeguarding is important to Youth Music, what we mean by a safeguarding culture, and safeguarding in the music industries.

[Maslaha's Radical safeguarding workbook](#)

Audience: Organisations and practitioners working with children and young people.

This workbook explores how to develop safeguarding cultures which equitably serve marginalised children and young people.

[Contextual Safeguarding's Towards Safety: Levers for safeguarding 'beyond referrals' in voluntary and community sector youth organisations](#)

Audience: Charities, community and voluntary organisations working with young people.

This is a resource and tool to support voluntary and community organisations create safe environments for young people, particularly in their response to harm that takes place beyond family environments.

[Contextual Safeguarding's Young people's relationship framework](#)

Audience: Organisations and practitioners working with young people.

An infographic which shares what young people have said about what they need from relationships with professionals with responsibility for creating a safe environment.

[National Youth Agency's guide to Setting up your safeguarding culture](#)

Audience: Organisations working with young people.

A comprehensive guide to creating a safeguarding culture within youth work settings, including sections on young people centred safeguarding, co-production, workforce development and partnership working.

The guidance is accompanied by a free online training on Setting up your safeguarding culture. This can be accessed via the link on the [National Youth Agency's Safeguarding and Risk Management Hub](#).

[Ann Craft Trust's guide to The power of language in safeguarding practice](#)

Audience: Organisations and practitioners working with children and adults.

A short resource on the importance of using language which is clear and promotes equity within safeguarding.

NSPCC's Language Matters Blog

Audience: Organisations and practitioners working with children.

A series of blogs which explores the impact of different words and phrases used in safeguarding, and how changing the language we use can improve safeguarding practices.

Ann Craft Trust's Safeguarding Matters Podcast. Episode 8: Safeguarding Disabled Young People

Audience: Organisations and practitioners working with children and young people.

This podcast focuses on the importance of listening to Disabled young people when developing safeguarding policies that impact them.

NSPCC's Safeguarding children who come from Black, Asian and minoritized ethnic communities

Audience: Organisations and practitioners working with children.

This resource is designed for social workers, but includes relevant information for all organisations and practitioners on the relationship between anti-racist practice and safeguarding.

The MU and ISM's Music Sector Code of Practice

Audience: Organisations working in the music industries.

This is a set of principles intended to prevent bullying, harassment and discrimination for all those working in the music sectors.

The MU Safe Space for Musicians scheme

Audience: Individuals and organisations working in the music industries.

The Safe Space Scheme provides an opportunity for musicians and other individuals working in the music industries to report sexual abuse and harassment using an online tool.

Policies and procedures

As well as Youth Music's minimum safeguarding standards, it's important to make sure your safeguarding policies and procedures:

- Reflect the context of your organisation, where you work and who you work with.

- Meet the relevant statutory guidance for your organisation and the contexts you work in.

This could include:

- A deputy safeguarding lead, with name and contact details in your safeguarding policy.

- Wider safer recruitment measures which, in addition to DBS checks, also include information on references, asking questions about safeguarding at interview, including safeguarding in the job description, including safeguarding policy in recruitment pack and on website.

- Clear policies on bullying and harassment, and whistleblowing.

- Clear policies on photography and filming.

- Appropriate supervision and support for staff with space to review their own practice.

- A policy for online safety as appropriate.

- A code of conduct for staff and volunteers.

If you are a charity, you must have a board level lead with safeguarding responsibilities and build safeguarding into your governance.

Resources

The resources below can support you to understand what needs to be in your policy, get started with writing and structuring it, or identify ways to improve what you already have in place.

NSPCC guidance on writing child safeguarding policies and procedures

Audience: Organisations working with children.

Ann Craft Trust guidance on writing adult safeguarding policies and procedures

Audience: Organisations working with adults.

Safer recruitment

NSPCC guidance on safer recruitment

Audience: Organisations working with children and young people.

NCVO's guide to recruiting volunteers safely

Audience: Charities, community and voluntary organisations working with volunteers.

NCVO's guide to Getting Started with DBS checks

Audience: Charities, community and voluntary organisations.

Government Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) check eligibility tool

Audience: Organisations working with children and/or adults at risk.

Statutory guidance
Working Together to Safeguard Children.

Department for Education. 2018 (updated 2022). This guidance is based on The Children Act (2004).

Audience: Organisations and practitioners working with children.

Care and Support Statutory Guidance.

Department for Health and Social Care. 2014 (updated 2023). This guidance is based on The Care Act (2014).

Audience: Organisations and practitioners working with adults at risk.

Keeping Children Safe in Education.

Department for Education. 2023.

Audience: Schools and colleges.

After-school clubs, community activities and tuition: safeguarding guidance for providers.

Department for Education. 2023.

Audience: Providers of activities, after-school clubs, tuition and other out-of-school settings working with children.

Safeguarding and protecting people for charities and trustees.

The Charity Commission. 2017 (updated 2022).

Audience: All charities working with children, adults at risk and/or the general public.

The information in this guidance is summarised in a 5-minute Safeguarding People guide for charity trustees.

Statutory framework for the early years foundation stage (section 3).

Department for Education. 2014 (updated 2023).

Audience: School and childcare providers working with children from birth to 5.

Prevent Duty guidance.

Home Office. 2023.

Guidance on the duty in the Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015 to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism.

Audience: All organisations and practitioners must prevent abuse for extremist purposes. Some organisations, including education and childcare providers, are "specified authorities" and must follow the Prevent Duty guidance.

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