



Safeguarding Statement

At The Space we recognise our moral and statutory responsibility to safeguard and promote the welfare of all children and young people in our services. We endeavour to provide a safe and welcoming environment in all our locations where children and young people are respected and valued. We are alert to the signs of abuse and neglect and follow our procedures to ensure children and young people receive effective support, protection and justice.

The Board of Trustees and leadership are committed to the safeguarding of all children, young people, staff and visitors. Safeguarding is a high priority, with arrangements in place to ensure children and young people feel, and are safe, both on site and during off-site activities. The Space follows the Statutory Guidance 'Working together to safeguard children 2023'. The client experience and wellbeing are paramount and safeguarding initiatives are developed to impact positively upon this. The Space also ensures that safeguarding legislation and guidance is adhered to and taken into account when developing and revisiting policies, procedures and associated arrangements.

Our venues provide a safe physical environment for all clients, staff, and visitors, ensuring premises are of a good standard. Health and Safety arrangements are in place to ensure adherence to current legislation and guidance and Safeguarding is included as a regular agenda item on all routine charity meetings.

Applicants applying for vacancies will be subject to recruitment and selection procedures designed to emphasise The Space's commitment to the safeguarding of its clients and staff. The procedures include the use of application forms, pre-employment vetting, enhanced DBS checks, barred list checks, prohibition checks, online checks, references and interview questioning. We have a robust induction plan for all new staff and volunteers which include Safeguarding, E-Safety, Prevent, Cyber and Health and Safety training. We have a Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) who is a member of the Senior Leadership Team. The DSL is responsible for Child Protection and Safeguarding.

The Space has policies and procedures in place to deal effectively with child protection and safeguarding issues together with recording and monitoring processes.

All staff are trained to an appropriate level to fulfil their safeguarding responsibilities. Training is updated annually, together with ongoing safeguarding briefings, training sessions, staff meetings, and awareness sessions throughout the academic year.

Our commitment to safeguarding is paramount to the success of all our work to promote and preserve the mental health and wellbeing of children and young people in the Cheddar Valley. The Trustees and leadership continue to keep abreast of developments and implement arrangements to improve ongoing safety and awareness of our clients, staff, volunteers and visitors.

The Space follows guidance from the following documents and agencies:

Working together to safeguard children – Working together to safeguard children 2023: statutory guidance [Working together to safeguard children - GOV.UK](#)

Somerset Safeguarding Children Partnership [Somerset Safeguarding Children Partnership](#)

Lisa Clark

Lisa Clark, CEO

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