



## NO-MAD'S

### Childs Safeguarding Policy

#### Policy Review Date – 1<sup>st</sup> November 2023

This policy applies to all our members and volunteers, or anyone working on behalf 432 No-MAD'S C.I.C Art operations and projects. 432 NO-MAD'S C.I.C are a creative a registered CIC (Community Interest Company) 14222242. The companies' activities will provide benefit to artists of all demographics (age, nationality and gender). It will also focus on youth and disadvantaged communities.

This policy applies to all staff, volunteers and collaborating artists who partake work, either paid or voluntary with 432 NO-MAD'S C.I.C

It is the responsibility of all collaborating artists, staff and volunteers to report safe guarding concerns and adhere to the set out policy.

Staff members, volunteers and artists collaborating with 432 NO-MAD'S C.I.C will need to undertake Enhanced DBS checks as part of our safeguarding policy.

#### **The purpose of this policy is:**

- To protect children and young peoples who participate in art sessions, art activities with 432 NO-MAD'S C.I.C
- To provide to our staff and volunteers with the overarching principles that guide our approach to safeguarding and child protection.

432 NO-MAD'S C.I.C believe that a child or young person should never experience abuse of any kind. We have a responsibility to promote the welfare all children and young people and keep them safe. We are committed to practise in a way that protects them.

Legal **Framework:** This policy has been drawn up on the basis of the law and guidance that seeks to protect children, namely:

- Children Act 2004 • Children Act 1989
- United Nations Convention of the Right of the Child 1991
- Data Protection Act 1998 • Human Rights Act 1998
- Sexual Offences Act 2003
- Safeguarding Vulnerable Groups Act 2006

- Protections Freedoms Act 2012
- Children and Families Act 2014
- Special educational needs and disability (SEND) code of practice 0-25 years: Statutory guidance for organisation which work with and support children and young people who have special educational needs or disability; HM Government 2014
- Information sharing: advice for practitioners providing safeguarding services to children, young people , parents and careers; HM Government 2015
- Working together to safeguard and promote the welfare of children; HM Government 2015 This policy should be read alongside our constitution.

**We recognise that:**

- The welfare of the child is paramount, as enshrined in the Children Act 1989
- All children, regardless of age, disability, gender, racial heritage, religious belief, sexual orientation or identity, have a right to equal protection from all types of harm or abuse
- Some children are additionally vulnerable because of the impact of previous experiences, their level of dependency, communication needs or other issues.
- Working in partnership with children, young people, their parents, careers, agencies, is essential in promoting children and young people's welfare.

**We will seek to keep children and young people safe by:**

- Valuing them, listening to and respecting them
- Recording and storing information professionally and securely and sharing information about safeguarding and good practice with children, their families, staff and volunteers.
- Using our safeguarding procedures to share concerns and relevant information with agencies who need to know and involving children, young people, parents, families and any allegations against staff and volunteers appropriately.
- Creating and maintaining an anti-bullying environment.
- Ensuring that we provide a safe physical environment for children, young people, staff and volunteers, by applying health and safety measures in accordance with the law and regulatory guidance.

## **Safeguarding Children Procedure**

432 NO-MAD'S C.I.C carries out the following work:

- Develop and promote art projects for disadvantaged people, youth, persons facing mental health issues, refugees and asylum seekers, those experiencing social anxiety and difficulty integrating within the city.
- Promote and work with local artists, galleries to promote creative spaces and creative forms of art.

**This procedure lays out the steps that staff, volunteers and collaborating artists should take if this occurs. Steps to take Safeguarding children is everyone's responsibility and 432 NO-MAD'S C.I.C will follow the following steps to safeguard the welfare of children:**

If a member or volunteer suspects there is a risk of harm or harm is occurring they should in the first instance establish if a child is in immediate danger. If yes they should contact the police using 999.

If there is no immediate danger but the member/volunteer is concerned the adult is at risk they should contact the Safeguarding Officer – Rishil Patel 07956271383, who is the Lead Officer for Safeguarding. In the event Rishil Patel is unavailable they should contact Majid Dhana on 07501302160, who is the Deputy Officer for Safeguarding. The concerns should be discussed and both parties should record this in their safeguarding log.

If a risk of harm is identified this should be reported to Children's social care using the advice given on the Portsmouth Safeguarding Children Partnership (PSCP) website <https://www.portsmouthscp.org.uk/>, see below. If you are concerned about a child's welfare or worried they are being abused, you can make a referral to Portsmouth Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH). By phone in office hours: 023 9268 8793 or 0845 671 0271 By email to: **[pccraduty@portsmouthcc.gcsx.gov.uk](mailto:pccraduty@portsmouthcc.gcsx.gov.uk)** By post to: Portsmouth MASH, Civic Offices, Floor 4 Core 5/6, PO1 2BG By fax to: 023 9275 4709 Out of hours: 0300 555 1373 (5pm - 8.30am Monday - Thursday, 4.30pm - 8:30 Friday and Bank holidays)

Following a report into social care the advice given by the MASH would be followed. This would be likely to either involve completing an inter-agency referral form (follow this link **<http://www.portsmouthscb.org.uk/professionals/resources-for-frontline-professional/>**) or following the advice given to provide ongoing support to the family concerned.

Once a concern has been reported to social care the advice given should be followed. This will either be to support social care as they carry out their assessment or follow the advice to continue to provide support to the family and child.

This should be done taking into account the views of the child at all times. All communication with social services will be recorded in the safeguarding log once a report has been raised. If any Committee member or volunteer is not happy with the decision by social services they should follow these steps:

1. In the first instance speak to the Lead Officer or Deputy Officer for safeguarding (numbers above) to discuss why you are still concerned the child is at risk of harm.
  2. Using the threshold document ( <http://www.portsmouthscb.org.uk/wpcontent/uploads/PSCB-Threshold-Documents-FINAL.pdf> ) reflect on the work done so far and where the risks are stemming from.
  3. Agree with the Lead Officer or Deputy Officer the next steps. These could include a. Stepping up support provided to the family by the Portsmouth Black History Committee
  - b. Going back to the decision maker to discuss
  - c. Completing another inter-agency referral form, taking care to ensure that all information is included and the reasons why the form is being completed again are clear.
4. Continue to gather the views of the child and wider family, ensuring they are safeguarded and their views are valued.