

70. Adult at Risk Safeguarding Policy Statement

Policy statement

Safeguarding - and the protection of all adults at risk - is everyone's responsibility. Abuse is a violation of an individual's human and civil rights. Abuse can take many forms; and all MFC staff are committed to work in such a way which promotes the welfare of adults at risk and safeguards them from harm. MFC staff accept and recognise their responsibilities to develop awareness of the issues that cause adults at risk harm - and to establish and maintain a safe environment for them.

MFC will not tolerate any form of abuse, wherever it occurs or whoever is responsible.

MFC recognises and is committed to the following principles to underpin effective safeguarding practice:

Principles

- That some adults are additionally vulnerable because of the impact of previous experiences, their level of dependency, their communication needs and/or other issues surrounding disabilities
- That working in partnership across the organisation (including with MFC's parent football club) - and with adults, their parents, carers and advocates, as well as other external agencies and statutory bodies - is essential to effectively promote an adults at risk welfare and safety
- That all adults at risk - regardless of age, disability, gender, racial heritage, religious belief, sexual orientation or identity - have the right to equal protection from all types of harm, abuse and/or exploitation; and to this end MFC will ensure that its services are provided in a way that promotes equality and diversity, eliminates discrimination in all of its forms (ensuring that no one is excluded) and which respects the needs of each and every individual.

Purpose & aims of this policy

MFC strives to ensure that no adults at risk ever experiences abuse of any kind.

To this end, MFC are committed to promoting an atmosphere of inclusion, transparency and openness - and are open to feedback from the people who engage with the organisation's services (including adult participants and their parents, carers and/or advocates, as well as all MFC staff) - with a view to how it may continuously improve services and activities.

MFC has developed robust **Adult at Risk Safeguarding Policies & Procedures** - contained within this **Safeguarding Handbook** - to establish the boundaries, guidelines and best practice for acceptable behaviour in relation to how the organisation and its staff will ensure the safety and welfare of all adults at risk - whether they be participants and/or beneficiaries.

Scope of this policy

MFC's **Adult at Risk Safeguarding Policies and Procedures** (as well as all other supplementary safeguarding resources) are designed to provide protection for the adults who either receive and/or are the beneficiaries of the organisation's services.

To this end, MFC will provide all line managers and staff with the appropriate guidance on the safeguarding procedures and best practice they should adopt in the event that they suspect an adult may be experiencing, or be at risk of, harm.

Who this policy applies to

This policy applies to everyone that comes into contact with MFC - including as applicable - the Directors, the CEO and Executive Team, Senior Managers, the Management Team, Employees, Sessional Workers, Agency Staff, Contractors, Suppliers, Volunteers, Students on work experience, as well as anyone working on behalf of the organisation.

Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility!