



## CHILD PROTECTION POLICY

At the Winch, we believe that it is always unacceptable for a child or young person to experience abuse of any kind. We have a responsibility to safeguard and promote the welfare of all children and young people. We are committed to protect them from abuse.

### **We recognise that:**

- the welfare of the child/young person is paramount
- all children, regardless of age, disability, gender, racial heritage, religious belief, sexual orientation or identity, have the right to equal protection from all types of harm or abuse
- working in partnership with children, young people, their parents and carers and other agencies is essential in promoting young people's welfare.

### **The purpose of the policy:**

- To provide protection for the children and young people who use The Winch's services, including the children of adult members or building users.
- To provide staff and volunteers with guidance on procedures they should adopt in the event that they suspect a child or young person may be experiencing, or be at risk of, harm.

Our Child Protection Policy applies to all staff, including senior managers, trustees, paid staff, volunteers and agency staff, students or anyone working for The Winch.

### **We will seek to safeguard children and young people by:**

- valuing them, listening to and respecting them
- adopting child protection policies and practices, including a code of conduct for staff and volunteers
- recruiting staff and volunteers safely, ensuring all necessary checks are made
- sharing information about concerns with agencies who need to know, and involving parents and children appropriately
- sharing information about child protection and good practice with children, parents, staff and volunteers,
- providing effective management for staff and volunteers through supervision, support and training.

### **In accordance with the relevant legislation and guidelines:**

- The Children Act 1989
- The Education Act 2002
- The Children Act 2004
- The London Child Protection Procedures (2016)
- Working Together to Safeguard Children (2018)

We are committed to regularly reviewing our policy and practice.