

Bridgewater's Safeguarding Strategy 2022-2025

Safeguarding Children and Adults who are at risk

is at the heart of all that we do

Safeguarding is a range of activities undertaken by all of us aimed at upholding all adults' and children's fundamental right to be safe.



Safeguarding Children and Adults

Safeguarding Children applies to all children up to the age of 18 years.

Safeguarding is defined by The Children Act 1989 as meaning that: "Agencies and organisations working with children and young people take all reasonable measures to ensure that risk of harm to individuals' welfare are minimised.

Where there are concerns that a child is suffering or likely to suffer significant harm, all agencies and organisations take appropriate actions to address those concerns working to local policies and working in partnership with her local agencies."

Safeguarding Adults applies to a person 18 years and over.

Safeguarding adults' is defined in the Care Act 2014 and means protecting a person's right to live in safety, free from abuse and neglect. The Care Act seeks:

To safeguard individuals in a way that supports them in making choices and having control in how they choose to live their lives

To promote an outcomes approach in safeguarding that works for people resulting in the best experience possible

To raise public awareness so that professionals, other staff and communities as a whole play their part in preventing, identifying and responding to abuse and neglect.

Bridgewater will:



Promote and prioritise the safety of children and adults at risk



Ensure that everyone understands their roles and responsibilities in respect of safeguarding



Provide a transparent culture of learning and development



Make Safeguarding Personal

The Trust will provide robust leadership for safeguarding at every level and across the organisation:



All activity across the Trust contributes to safeguarding and safeguarding is everyone's business regardless of role and responsibility



Safeguarding in the Trust is focused on the places we serve through a borough based approach



We will promote a culture of partnership working, listening and learning from the experiences of children, adults at risk and their families



To deliver robust safeguarding arrangements and appropriate, timely and effective use of procedures to protect those who are most at risk:



There will be transparent and accountable governance arrangements and organisational structures within the Trust



Those working within the Trust will be enabled to be confident in their practice by providing training at the appropriate level and access safeguarding training, safeguarding supervision, advice and support.

To deliver robust Safeguarding arrangements and appropriate, timely and effective use of procedures to protect those who are most at risk:



Being active members of and contributors to Local Safeguarding Adults Boards and Safeguarding Children Partnership.



Working closely with multi agency partners to develop an integrated approach to achieve positive outcomes for children and adults at risk



Demonstrate that we are a 'learning organisation' which is informed by the best practice and learning from safeguarding reviews with the ethos of a 'Just Culture'.

