

## Laura Mole Counselling Safeguarding Policy Statement

January 2024

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This is a document to ensure safeguarding is at the heart of Laura Mole Counselling's business. This statement reflects the safeguarding needs of the children and young people Laura Mole works with and aligns with Privacy Policies and Counselling Contracts used in this service. The purpose and scope of this policy statement

The purpose of this policy statement is:

to protect children and young people who receive Laura Mole's services from harm. This includes the children of adults who use our services to provide staff and volunteers, as well as children and young people and their families, with the overarching principles that guide our approach to child protection.

This policy applies to anyone working on behalf of Laura Mole, including senior managers and the board of trustees, paid staff, volunteers, sessional workers, agency staff and students. Legal framework

This policy has been drawn up on the basis of legislation, policy and guidance that seeks to protect children in England. A summary of the key legislation is available from [nspcc.org.uk/learning](https://www.nspcc.org.uk/learning).

### Supporting documents

This policy statement should be read alongside the guidance and other related documents and advice that I follow from the NSPCC, BACP, and the government website including:

Dealing with disclosures and concerns about a child or young person

Managing allegations

Recording concerns and information sharing

Child protection records retention and storage

Code of conduct

Behaviour codes for children and young people

Photography and sharing images guidance

Managing complaints

Whistleblowing

Health and safety

Supervision and support

I believe that:

children and young people should never experience abuse of any kind we have a responsibility to promote the welfare of all children and young people, to keep them safe and to practise in a way that protects them.

I recognise that:

- the welfare of children is paramount in all the work we do and in all the decisions we take
- all children, regardless of age, disability, gender reassignment, race, religion or belief, sex, or sexual orientation have an equal right to 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, carers and other agencies is essential in promoting young people's welfare.

I will seek to keep children and young people safe by:

- valuing, listening to and respecting them
- ensuring that any safeguarding concerns are reported immediately to my clinical supervisor
- adopting child protection and safeguarding best practice through policies, procedures and code of conduct
- providing effective processes of self-development through supervision, support, training and quality assurance measures so that I follow the policies, procedures and behaviour codes of the BACP and my business confidently and competently
- ensuring that I have an enhanced DBS check that is registered online
- recording, storing and using information professionally and securely, in line with data protection legislation and guidance [more information about this is available from the Information Commissioner's Office: [ico.org.uk/for-organisations](http://ico.org.uk/for-organisations)]
- sharing information about safeguarding and good practice with children and their families via leaflets, posters, group work and one-to-one discussions
- making sure that children, young people and their families know where to go for help if they have a concern

- using safeguarding and child protection procedures to share concerns and relevant information with agencies who need to know, and involving children, young people, parents, families and carers appropriately
- using procedures to manage any allegations
- ensuring that I have effective complaints and whistleblowing measures in place
- ensuring that I provide a safe physical environment for our children and young people, by applying health and safety measures in accordance with the law and regulatory guidance

Contact details

Nominated child protection lead Name: Laura Mole

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BACP Complaints and concerns <https://www.bacp.co.uk/about-us/protecting-the-public/professional-conduct/how-to-complain-about-a-bacp-member/>

NSPCC Helpline

0808 800 5000

This policy statement came into force on 1st September 2019

I am committed to reviewing our policy and good practice annually.

This policy statement and accompanying procedures were last reviewed on 1<sup>st</sup> January 2024

Signed: Laura Mole

Date: 1<sup>st</sup> January 2024