



Lucy Chewins
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Purpose and Aim of the Policy Statement

Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility. This policy sets out Green Sky Counselling's responsibilities under the Children Act 2004 to ensure children, young people and adults at risk, are kept safe from harm. This includes harm arising from:

- The conduct of Lucy Chewins, sole counsellor and owner of Green Sky Counselling
- The design and implementation of Green Sky counselling programmes

We have an overarching commitment to keep children and at risk adults safe at all times whilst under our care and supervision.

The Policy

The policy lays out the commitments made by Green Sky Counselling, and informs counsellors of their responsibilities in relation to safeguarding.

This policy does not cover:

- Safeguarding concerns in the wider community not perpetrated or not directly reported by a client to Green Sky Counselling.

What is Safeguarding?

In the UK, safeguarding means protecting people's health, wellbeing and human rights, and enabling them to live free from harm, abuse and neglect.

We understand it to mean protecting people, including children and at risk adults, from harm.

Further definitions relating to safeguarding are provided in the glossary below.



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Policy Statement

Green Sky Counselling believes that every client we come into contact with, regardless of age, gender identity, disability, sexual orientation or ethnic origin has the right to be protected from all forms of harm, abuse, neglect and exploitation. We have a responsibility to promote the welfare of all our clients, to keep them safe and to practise in a way that protects them and their interests.

This policy will address the following areas of safeguarding: child safeguarding and adult safeguarding. These areas of safeguarding may have different policies and procedures associated with them which is identified in this policy.

Green Sky Counselling commits to addressing safeguarding throughout its work, through the three pillars of prevention, reporting and response.

Prevention

Green Sky Counselling Responsibilities

Green Sky Counselling will:

- Ensure Lucy Chewins has access to, familiar with, and know her responsibilities within this policy
- Design and undertake all its counselling programmes in a way that protects children, young people and at risk adults from any risk of harm. This includes the way in which Green Sky gathers information about clients, communicated and stored
- Implement stringent safeguarding procedures and ensure I have the appropriate DBS checks in place
- Ensure Lucy Chewins undertakes refresher training on safeguarding at regular intervals or whenever widespread changes to legislation have been made



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- Follow up on reports of safeguarding concerns promptly and according to due process

Counsellor Responsibilities

Child/young person and at risk adult Safeguarding

Lucy Chewins of Green Sky Counselling must not:

- Subject a child/young person or at risk adult to physical, emotional or psychological abuse, or neglect
- Exceptions to a child/young person or at risk adult's confidentiality is where I have a responsibility to report to relevant authorities and/or a child's school under the following legal Acts:
 - The Children's Act 1989/2004
 - The Terrorism Act 2000
 - The Drug Trafficking Act 1994
- If a child/young person or at risk adult shares information that leads me to believe that they or somebody else is at significant risk of harm, I will follow the safeguarding procedure of reporting. In all incidents how we manage this would be discussed with the child during the session to ensure that ultimately, they are kept safe which may mean discussing their wellbeing with yourself or another third party.
- I have a supervisor who I may refer to for guidance. Supervisors ensure the best interest of the client and adhere to the same principles and confidentiality.



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Counsellor Responsibilities

Adult Safeguarding

Lucy Chewins of Green Sky Counselling must not:

- Subject an adult to physical, emotional or psychological abuse, or neglect
- All sessions are confidential with the following exceptions where I have a legal responsibility to report to relevant authorities:
 - The Children's Act 1989/2004 – you abuse/you disclose that you have abused a child under the age of 18
 - The Terrorism Act 2000 – you disclose that you are involved in or are aware of any form of terrorism
 - The Drug Trafficking Act 1994 – you disclose that you are involved in any form of drug trafficking
- The other exception to confidentiality is where I believe the client or somebody else is at significant risk of harm. In all incidents how we manage this would be discussed with the adult client during the session to ensure that ultimately they are kept safe which may mean discussing their wellbeing with a third party.
- I have a supervisor who I may refer to for guidance. Supervisors ensure the best interest of the client and adhere to the same principles and confidentiality.

Additionally, Lucy Chewins of Green Sky Counselling is obliged to:

- Always ensure the welfare of clients, and their wishes and feelings are afforded consideration when developing and carrying out counselling



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- Contribute to creating and maintaining an environment that prevents safeguarding violations and promotes the implementation of the Safeguarding Policy
- Report any concerns or suspicions regarding safeguarding violations using the appropriate channels

Lucy Chewins has a professional role to identify and respond to Safeguarding as listed above and report any concerns immediately

Reporting

Lucy Chewins of Green Sky Counselling will ensure that safe, appropriate, accessible means of reporting safeguarding concerns are followed.

Lucy Chewins of Green Sky Counselling will signpost complaints from external sources such as members of the public, partners and official bodies to Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) for concerns involving children or Adult Social Care.

Response

Lucy Chewins of Green Sky Counselling will follow up safeguarding reports and concerns according to policy and procedure, and legal and statutory obligations, as listed under safeguarding sections above.

Confidentiality

It is essential that confidentiality is maintained at all stages of the process when dealing with safeguarding concerns. Safeguarding information will be stored and handled in line with the Data Protection Act 2018. Information relating to the concern and subsequent case management should be shared on a need to know basis only, and should be kept secure at all times.



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Dates

This Policy Statement comes into force with effect from 1st September 2022 and will be reviewed annually, with the next review taking place on 1st September 2023.

Contact Details

In the first instance, please contact greenskycounselling@gmail.com for any further support and advice relating to the above.

Glossary of Terms

Beneficiary of Assistance

Someone who directly receives services from Green Sky Counselling programme. Note that misuse of can include exploitation by giving the perception of being in a position of power.

Child

A person below the age of 18

Harm

Psychological, physical and any other infringement of a child/young person's individual rights

Child/young person or at risk adult Psychological harm

Emotional or psychological abuse, including (but not limited to) humiliating and degrading treatment such as bad name calling, constant criticism, belittling, persistent shaming, solitary confinement and isolation



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Child Protection from Child Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA)

The term used by the humanitarian and development community to refer to the prevention of Child exploitation and abuse of affected populations by staff or associated personnel. The term derives from the United Nations Secretary General's Bulletin on Special Measures for Protection from Child exploitation and Abuse (ST/SGB/2003/13) Safeguarding

In the UK, safeguarding means protecting children/young people and vulnerable adults health, wellbeing and human rights, and enabling them to live free from harm, abuse and neglect

In our sector, we understand it to mean protecting children, young people and vulnerable adults from harm. In addition to this, protecting adult clients from significant risk of harm to themselves or others.

Safeguarding means taking all reasonable steps to prevent harm, particularly child exploitation, child abuse and child harassment from occurring; to protect people, especially vulnerable adults and children, from that harm; and to respond appropriately when harm does occur.

This definition draws from our values and principles and shapes our culture. It pays specific attention to preventing and responding to harm from any potential, actual or attempted abuse of power, trust, or vulnerability, especially for child sexual purposes.



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Safeguarding applies consistently at Green Sky Counselling. It requires proactively identifying, preventing and guarding against all risks of harm, exploitation and abuse and having mature, accountable and transparent systems for response, reporting and learning when risks materialise. Those systems must be survivor-centred and also protect those accused until proven guilty.

Safeguarding puts beneficiaries and affected persons at the centre of all we do.

Sexual abuse

The term 'sexual abuse' means the actual or threatened physical intrusion of a sexual nature, whether by force or under unequal or coercive conditions.

Sexual exploitation

The term 'Child exploitation' means any actual or attempted abuse of a position of vulnerability, differential power, or trust, for sexual purposes, including, but not limited to, profiting monetarily, socially or politically from the Child exploitation of another. This definition includes human trafficking and modern slavery.

Child Exploitation – the more you know, the more you see

What is Child Exploitation? Children and young people may be vulnerable to abuse or exploitation from within their family and from individuals they come across in their day-to-day lives. These threats can take a variety of different forms, including: sexual, physical and emotional abuse; neglect; exploitation by criminal gangs and organised crime groups; trafficking; online abuse; Child exploitation and the influences of extremism leading to radicalisation. (From the Pan-Dorset Website)

What is Child Child exploitation? Child Child exploitation is Child Abuse. Any young person could become a victim, regardless of their social or ethnic background.



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Victims are often coerced into sexual relationships which they confuse with love and attention. They risk damage to their physical, emotional and psychological health.

Child exploitation is a form of sexual abuse in which a young person is manipulated or forced into taking part in a sexual act often in return for attention, affection, money, drugs, alcohol or accommodation.

The child might think that their abuser is their friend or boyfriend but the abuser might physically or verbally threaten them and be violent towards them. They will control and manipulate them and try to isolate them from friends and family.

In organised Child exploitation young people are passed through networks where they are forced into sexual activity with a number of men. This often takes place at 'sex parties' and the young people may be used to recruit others into the network.

What is Criminal Child Exploitation? Criminal exploitation is child abuse where children and young people are manipulated and coerced into committing crimes. It occurs where an individual or group takes advantage of a person under the age of 18 and may coerce, manipulate or deceive a child or young person under that age into any activity

In exchange for something the victim needs or wants

And/Or for the financial advantage or increased status of the perpetrator or facilitator

and/or (c) Through violence or the threat of violence.

The victim may be exploited even if the activity appears consensual (i.e. moving drugs or the proceeds of drugs from one place to another). Child Criminal Exploitation does not always involve physical contact; it can also occur through the use of technology. (Home Office 2018)

What are County Lines?



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County Lines is the police term for urban gangs exploiting young people into moving drugs from a hub, normally a large city, into other markets – suburban areas and market and coastal towns – using dedicated mobile phone lines or “deal lines”. Children as young as 12 years old have been exploited into carrying drugs for gangs. This can involve children being trafficked away from their home area, staying in accommodation and selling and manufacturing drugs. This can include:

Airbnb and short term private rental properties

budget hotels

the home of a drug user, or other vulnerable person, that is taken over by a criminal gang- this may be referred to as cuckooing.

(Information taken from the NSPCC website)

Useful contacts and information:

If you have concerns that a child you know may be a victim of Child Exploitation you can report it to your local police on 101 or Dorset Do it Online or you can contact Children’s Social care:

Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole Safeguarding Advice (Children’s First Response Hub)
01202 123334

BCP Out of Hours Service: 01202 738256 Website: bcpcouncil.gov.uk

Dorset Safeguarding Advice: 01305 228866

Dorset Out of Hours Service: 01305 228558

NSPCC information on Criminal Exploitation

NCPCC information on Child exploitation



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Parents Against Child Exploitation (Pace) UK (paceuk.info) – helps parents fight to keep their children safe

We Protect Global Alliance

Stop CSE

Barnado's have published the following leaflet for parents: Spot the Signs and this leaflet for children: Be aware, stay alert, keep safe!

Escapeline <https://www.escapeline.org.uk/>

Survivor

The person who has been abused or exploited. The term 'survivor' is often used in preference to 'victim' as it implies strength, resilience and the capacity to survive, however it is the individual's choice how they wish to identify themselves.

At risk adult

Sometimes also referred to as vulnerable adult. A person who is or may be in need of care by reason of mental or other disability, age or illness; and who is or may be unable to take care of him or herself, or unable to protect him or herself against significant harm or exploitation.

What is Domestic Abuse?

Domestic abuse is defined across government as any incident of controlling, coercive, or threatening behaviour, violence or abuse between those aged 16 or over who are, or have been, intimate partners or family members regardless of their gender or sexuality. This



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definition will remain in use until April 2021 when it should be widened and become a statutory definition.

Domestic abuse covers, but is not limited to:

psychological;

physical;

sexual;

financial;

emotional forms of abuse

Controlling behaviour can involve a range of acts designed to make a person subordinate and/or dependent by isolating them from sources of support, exploiting their resources and capacities for personal gain, depriving them of the means needed for independence, resistance and escape, and regulating their everyday behaviour.

Coercive behaviour is an act or a pattern of acts of assault, threats, humiliation and intimidation or other abuse that is used to harm, punish, or frighten a person.

If you are concerned that a child or young person is in an emergency situation you should contact the Police urgently on 999.

The Hideout – information for young people about abuse: <http://thehideout.org.uk/young-people/home/>

App 'For Me' to help young people find support online: <https://www.nspcc.org.uk/what-we-do/news-opinion/childline-launches-new-app/>

24-hour Domestic Violence helpline: 0808 2000 247

www.nationaldomesticviolencehelpline.org.uk



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FGM

Female genital mutilation (sometimes referred to as female circumcision) refers to procedures that intentionally alter or cause injury to the female genital organs for non-medical reasons. The practice is illegal in the UK.

An estimated 137,000 women in the UK are affected by female genital mutilation (FGM). However, the true extent is unknown, due to the “hidden” nature of the crime.

The girls may be taken to their countries of origin so that FGM can be carried out during the summer holidays, allowing them time to “heal” before they return to school. There are also worries that some girls may have FGM performed in the UK.

FGM is usually carried out on young girls between infancy and the age of 15, most commonly before puberty starts. The procedure is traditionally carried out by a woman with no medical training.

There are no health benefits to FGM. Removing and damaging healthy and normal female genital tissue interferes with the natural functions of girls’ and women’s bodies.

Organisations Working on Issues Around FGM

POLICE SERVICE: Metropolitan Police Service/Project Azure, Tel 020 7161 2888

UK GOVERNMENT: <https://www.gov.uk/female-genital-mutilation-help-advice>

HELPLINES: NSPCC FGM Helpline, 24-hour helpline, 0800 028 3550

Black Association of Women Step Out (BAWSO), 24-hour helpline, 0800 731 8147

ChildLine, 24-hour helpline for children, 0800 1111

NATIONAL FGM CENTRE: <http://nationalfgmcentre.org.uk/> National FGM Centre

Books about FGM



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Comfort Momoh, Female Genital Mutilation (ISBN 9781857756937)

Waris Dirie, Desert Flower (ISBN 9780688158231)

Susannah Carlton, Biting the Stick (ISBN 9781497363489)

Radicalisation/Prevent

What is Radicalisation? The process by which a person comes to support extreme ideologies. It can result in a person becoming drawn into terrorism and is in itself a form of harm. There is no obvious profile of a person likely to become involved in extremism or a single indicator of when a person might move to adopt violence in support of extremist ideas. The process of radicalisation is different for every individual and can take place over an extended period or within a very short time frame.

What is Extremism? Extremism is the vocal or active opposition to our fundamental values, including democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty and the mutual respect and tolerance of different faiths and beliefs. We also regard calls for the death of members of our armed forces as extremist. (Definition from the Government Counter-Extremism Strategy)

What is Terrorism? Terrorism can occur anywhere in the world with atrocities carried out in support of various ideologies. In the UK, Terrorism is defined (Terrorism Act 2006) as a violent act that:

Endangers a person's life, other than that of the person committing the action

Involves serious violence against a person

Causes serious damage to property

Creates a serious risk to the public's health and safety



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Interferes with or seriously disrupts an electronic system

Terrorism can be motivated by a range of ideologies or other factors, including religion, politics and race.

It's important to remember that not all extremist groups commit terrorist or violent acts. However, some groups pose particular threats, both online and offline. (Information from Educate Against Hate Website). Terrorist groups will often draw on extremist ideology as a justification for their acts.

In the UK, we face threat from terrorist organisations formed in Iraq and Syria, and groups linked to Al-Qa'ida. The internet has given these groups the ability to communicate their messages to people in other countries that previously would've been difficult, and wrongly use religion to justify their actions. We also face threat from far-right groups who promote a divisive narrative and exploit the general public's anxieties about the rise of Islamist extremism, deprivation and global conflicts.

What is Prevent?

Prevent is part of the Government's counter-terrorism strategy that aims to stop people becoming terrorists. It is a multi-agency approach to safeguard people at risk of radicalisation. It includes a duty on schools to recognise that some students are vulnerable to radicalisation and to have a clear safeguarding procedure in place to act upon concerns.

How does Prevent work?



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It looks at building a deeper understanding of how individuals become radicalised. This helps to identify ways of preventing people from becoming terrorists or supporting violent extremism.

Typically, a radicalisation process includes exposure of an individual to extremist viewpoints that may eventually influence the person to carry out an act of violent extremism or terrorism. This could take week, months or even years. It is possible to intervene during this process and stop someone becoming a terrorist or supporting violent extremist activity.

Useful Contacts and Information

There is a lot of information about Prevent available on the Home Office website or on the Educate Against Hate website <http://educateagainsthate.com/>

Reporting terrorism concerns online here: <https://www.gov.uk/report-terrorism>

Report terrorist or extremist content online – Action Counters Terrorism

Extra information regarding Far-Right Extremism

If you believe someone is at risk of radicalisation you can help them obtain support and prevent them becoming involved by raising your concerns and making a referral, either to the Academy Safeguarding Lead, or contact the Safeguarding Referral Unit:

sru@dorset.pnn.police.uk

Telephone Contacts

Anti-terrorist hotline: 0800 789 321

Crimestoppers: 0800 555 111

Local Authority Safeguarding & Support



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For local authority information surrounding safeguarding please visit the Pan-Dorset Safeguarding Partnerships website: <https://pdscp.co.uk/>

Local Early Help Services

For families and young people in Bournemouth, Poole and Christchurch:

Family Information Directory – Information on all services available to families in BCP

UP in BCP – Support and Advice for all young people 13-19 living in BCP

SUSSED – Advice centre: 1442A Wimborne Road, Bournemouth, BH10 7AS. See website for opening hours.

507– Advice Centre: 507 Christchurch Rd, Bournemouth BH1 4AF. See website for opening hours.

NUMBER 18 – Advice Centre – see website for opening hours – Number 18, 18 Hill Street, Poole, Dorset, BH15 1NR.

Always call 999 if you think a child is at immediate risk of significant harm.

To read Government guidance on safeguarding please visit their website

<https://www.gov.uk/topic/schools-colleges-childrens-services/safeguarding-children>