

E-Safety Policy

Date: 01.01.2022

Version Number: V1

Approved by: Nicole Schnackenberg (Director, Labyrinth House)

Date of approval: 25.11.2022

Review (date): 25.11.2023

1.0 Statement

Labyrinth House works with children and families either directly as part of its activities or under the direction of its tenants. We aim to be a one door for families seeking support with their emotional wellbeing, including infants, children and young people from conception through to age twenty-five. A focus on families supporting children with special educational needs and disability; on children and young people who have experienced developmental trauma; and on children and young people on the edge of care and/or care experienced is paramount.

2.0 Purpose

The purpose of this policy statement is to:

- Ensure the safety of infants, children and adults is paramount when they are using the internet, social media or any electronic devices.
- Ensure our staff and volunteers are provided with the correct training and knowledge to facilitate the use of e-safety and our approach to online safety.
- Ensure that we, as an organisation, are operating in line with our values and within the correct legislation and laws.

This policy applies to all staff and volunteers who come into contact with children as part of their role or activities at Labyrinth House.

3.0 We believe that:

- No child or young person should be subjected to or experience abuse of any kind.
- All children and young people should be able to access the internet for educational and personal development: and is aligned to our safeguarding policy to ensure they are kept safe.

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4.0 We recognise:

- The importance of our Safeguarding officers monitoring and putting the correct measures in place to keep children and young people safe while using electronic devices owned by Labyrinth House.
- The need to provide training and clear instructions set out by Labyrinth House for all staff and volunteers to adhere to.
- Our responsibility to educate and inform children and young adults accessing our services of how they can keep safe while using the internet, social media and electronic devices for educational purposes.
- The importance of supporting families and carers of children/young adults to do what they can to prevent risks by keeping their children safe online.
- The need to develop and maintain robust procedures to enable Labyrinth House to respond accordingly when incidents or inappropriate online behaviour occurs.
- The need to develop an online safety agreement for use with children and young adults and their parents or carers.
- Our obligation to review the security of our systems regularly.
- The need to ensure that no personal information about the child or young adult is saved on any device used including usernames, login, email address and passwords.
- The requirement to examine risks associated with using social media platforms and where possible restrict access to sites that impose risks to children/young adults.

5.0 What will happen if online abuse occurs and how we will respond to it:

If an incident happens, Labyrinth House will act accordingly by:

- Having a robust safeguarding policy in place for responding to abuse (including online).
- Providing staff and volunteers with training on dealing with all forms of abuse, including bullying or cyberbullying, emotional abuse, sexting, sexual abuse and sexual exploitation.
- Ensuring our response takes the needs of the person experiencing abuse into account.
- Regularly review the plan developed to address the abuse to ensure that any problems have been resolved in the long term.

6.0 Related policies

This policy should be read alongside the organisation's policies and procedures, including:

- Safeguarding
- Safer Recruitment
- Job role of Designated Safeguarding Lead

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If you have any questions regarding our e-safety commitments and procedures, please contact the below people responsible for Safeguarding at Labyrinth House:

Designated Safeguarding Lead 1

Name: Nicole Schnackenberg

Title: Director

Email address: contact@labyrinthhouse.org.uk

Designated Safeguarding Lead 2

Name: Sophie Cooper

Title: Operations Manager

Email address: good.day@sunshinebabybank.org.uk

NSPCC Helpline

For further help and support on E-Safety, please contact the NSPCC on the below details:

0808 800 5000