

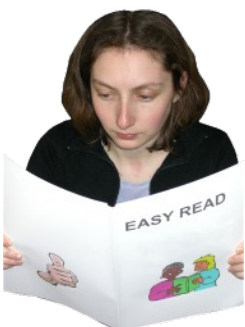


HM Courts &
Tribunals Service



Safeguarding policy

November 2023



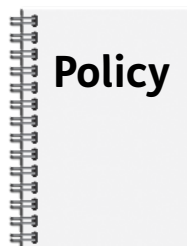
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HM Courts &
Tribunals Service

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About HMCTS



HMCTS stands for His Majesty's Courts and Tribunals Service.

We run courts in England and Wales and tribunals in England, Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland to give people and businesses access to justice.

About this policy



This document is a **policy**.

A policy is a set of rules that guide us when we're making decisions.



This policy tells people who work in HMCTS how we will safeguard and look after:

- children
- vulnerable adults.

What safeguarding means



Safeguarding is protecting the rights of adults at risk and children. This helps them live in safety, free from **abuse** and **neglect**.



We sometimes see people in situations where they might be at **risk of harm**.

We cannot fix every situation, but we can help.



Safeguarding is protecting **vulnerable** groups of people.



We say that people are **vulnerable** when they have a difficulty and need extra support. This could be a disability, mental health condition or an experience which has made someone feel unsafe.



Sometimes we **signpost** people to information so they can get help themselves.

Signposting is telling people about other places to get information and help.



We can share personal information about someone if we're trying to protect them.

Reasons for safeguarding



HM Courts &
Tribunals Service

HMCTS wants to be a safe place.



We want:

- to protect vulnerable people



- to see a safeguarding risk and do the right thing



- people to be safe and feel they can trust us.



We follow laws about safeguarding.

Who we are safeguarding



We safeguard children and adults who need it.

Who this policy is for


HM Courts &
Tribunals Service



This policy is for everyone who work in HMCTS.



Our staff

This policy helps our staff know what to do.



HMCTS has a group of people who know what to do to safeguard others.



Our partners

We have shared our policy with people we work with.

What the words mean

Abuse: Abuse is when someone giving care and support to someone at risk uses power or control in the wrong way. Self-harm and suicide are also forms of abuse.

Child: Anybody under the age of 18 is legally a child and we say all children are vulnerable.

HMCTS: Stands for His Majesty's Courts and Tribunals Service. We run courts in England and Wales and tribunals in England, Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland to give people and businesses access to justice.

Neglect: Someone who should be receiving support is not being given the basic care from someone who should be looking after them.

Self-neglect: Is where a person does not look after themselves.

Policy: A set of rules that guide us when we're making decisions.

Risk of harm: A situation where somebody might get hurt.

Safeguarding: Protecting the rights of adults at risk and children. It helps them live in safety, free from abuse and neglect.

Signposting: Telling people about other places to get information and help.

Vulnerable adult: An adult who has difficulty and need extra support. This could be a disability, mental health condition or an experience which has made someone feel unsafe.

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