

Safeguarding Policy

****Website Summary ****

Chloe Parikh Speech Therapy is committed to keeping children safe. Any concerns about a child's safety or wellbeing are taken seriously and acted on promptly, following UK safeguarding law and professional standards. The full safeguarding policy is provided below and is available as part of our intake paperwork.

Effective Date: 01/09/2025

Chloe Parikh Speech Therapy is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people. This policy sets out how safeguarding concerns are recognised, responded to, and reported in line with UK law and professional standards.

This policy applies to all work carried out by Chloe Parikh Speech Therapy.

1. Policy Statement

Chloe Parikh Speech Therapy believes that:

- All children and young people have the right to be safe from harm, abuse, and neglect
- Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility
- The welfare of the child is paramount

Safeguarding concerns will always be taken seriously and acted upon promptly.

2. Legal and Professional Framework

This policy is informed by:

- Children Act 1989 and Children Act 2004
 - Working Together to Safeguard Children (HM Government)
 - UK General Data Protection Regulation (UK GDPR) and Data Protection Act 2018
 - HCPC Standards of conduct, performance and ethics
 - RCSLT Safeguarding Guidance
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3. Who We Are

Chloe Parikh Speech Therapy operates as a **sole trader**.

Chloe Parikh is:

- The business owner

- The treating Speech and Language Therapist
- The **Safeguarding Lead** responsible for safeguarding decisions and actions

Contact details:

Chloe Parikh Speech Therapy

Chloe Parikh, Speech and Language Therapist (HCPC registered)

[Business Address - Personal address]

chloeparikh.speechtherapy@gmail.com

07448316583

4. Scope of This Policy

This policy applies to:

- All children and young people receiving services
 - Parents and carers involved in therapy
 - Any third parties involved in the child's care through Chloe Parikh Speech Therapy
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5. Definition of Safeguarding

Safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children includes:

- Protecting children from maltreatment
 - Preventing impairment of children's health or development
 - Ensuring children grow up in safe and effective care
 - Taking action to enable all children to have the best outcomes
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6. Types of Abuse and Neglect

Safeguarding concerns may include, but are not limited to:

- **Physical abuse**
 - **Emotional abuse**
 - **Sexual abuse**
 - **Neglect**
 - **Domestic abuse**
 - **Exploitation (including online harm)**
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7. Recognising Safeguarding Concerns

Concerns may arise through:

- A child's disclosure
- Observed changes in behaviour, communication, or presentation
- Information shared by parents, carers, or professionals

All concerns will be considered in the context of the child's communication needs and developmental level.

8. Responding to Safeguarding Concerns

If a safeguarding concern is identified:

- The concern will be taken seriously and not ignored
 - The child will be listened to and reassured, without making promises of confidentiality
 - Information will be recorded accurately and promptly
 - Appropriate advice will be sought if required
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9. Reporting Safeguarding Concerns

Where there is a concern that a child is at risk of significant harm:

- A referral will be made to the local authority children's social care team
- Immediate concerns may be reported to emergency services
- Information will be shared without consent where necessary to protect the child or others

Parents or carers will normally be informed of referrals unless doing so would place the child at increased risk.

10. Confidentiality and Information Sharing

Confidentiality is respected at all times; however, it is not absolute.

Information may be shared without consent when:

- There is a safeguarding concern
- Sharing is required by law
- It is necessary to prevent serious harm

Information shared will be:

- Relevant and proportionate
- Shared securely
- Recorded appropriately

This approach aligns with HCPC and RCSLT professional standards.

11. Record Keeping

Safeguarding concerns and actions taken will be:

- Recorded clearly, factually, and promptly
 - Stored securely in line with data protection requirements
 - Retained in accordance with professional and legal guidance
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12. Safer Working Practice

Chloe Parikh Speech Therapy is committed to safe professional practice, including:

- Maintaining appropriate professional boundaries
 - Obtaining informed consent for therapy
 - Ensuring therapy environments are safe and appropriate
 - Using professional judgement in all interactions
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13. Training and Professional Development

Chloe Parikh maintains safeguarding knowledge through:

- Regular safeguarding training
 - Keeping up to date with changes in legislation and guidance
 - Reflective practice and supervision where appropriate
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14. Review of This Policy

This Safeguarding Policy will be reviewed regularly and updated as required to reflect changes in legislation, guidance, or professional standards.

This Safeguarding Policy is provided for general informational purposes and does not constitute legal advice.