



# **Alström Syndrome UK**

Strength for today, hope for the future

## **Child and Adults at Risk of Harm Protection Policy**

**The welfare of children and adults at risk is everyone's responsibility, particularly when it comes to protecting them from harm**

Alström Syndrome UK will seek to protect children and adults with Alström Syndrome from harm. We will inform individuals of their rights and tell them about the procedures that are in place, if they have concerns. We ensure all workers (ASUK staff) and volunteers are DBS checked and ensure safe recruitment procedures are in place. Regular training is given, and all staff undergo child protection and adults at risk training. If we have concerns, or are informed of concerns, or if concerns are raised, we will signpost to the appropriate authority; School, College or University, Social Services and if there is an immediate issue, we will inform the Police.

### **Alström Syndrome UK believe that:**

- Children, young people and adults at risk should never experience abuse of any kind
- We have a responsibility to promote the welfare of all children, young people and adults at risk, to keep them safe

### **Alström Syndrome UK recognise that:**

- All children and adults at risk, regardless of age, disability, gender reassignment, race, religion or belief, gender, or sexual orientation have an equal right to protection from all types of harm or abuse
- Some children and adults at risk are additionally vulnerable because of the impact of previous experiences, their level of dependency, communication needs or other issues
- We work in partnership with children, young people, adults at risk their parents, carers and other agencies to promote their welfare.

### **Alström Syndrome UK will seek to keep children/adults at risk safe by:**

- Valuing, listening to and respecting them
- Appointing a nominated child/adult at risk protection and safeguarding lead and a deputy

- Adopting child/adults at risk protection and safeguarding good practice through our policies, procedures and code of conduct for staff and volunteers
- Developing and implementing an effective online safety policy and related procedures
- Providing effective management for staff and volunteers through supervision, support, training and quality assurance measures so that all staff and volunteers know about and follow our policies, procedures and behaviour codes confidently and competently.
- Recruiting and selecting staff and volunteers safely, ensuring all necessary checks are made
- 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/fororganisations](http://ico.org.uk/fororganisations)]*
- Sharing information about safeguarding and good practice with children/adults at risk and their families via a range of communication methods including social media, leaflets, posters, group work and one-to-one discussions
- Making sure that children, young people, adults at risk and their families know where to go for help if they have a concern
- Using our safeguarding and child protection procedures to share concerns and relevant information with agencies who need to know, and involving children, young people, adults at risk, parents, families and carers appropriately
- Using our procedures to manage any allegations against staff and volunteers appropriately
- Maintaining an anti-bullying environment and ensuring that we have a policy and procedure to help us deal effectively with any bullying that does arise
- Ensuring that we have effective complaints and whistleblowing measures in place
- Building a transparent culture where staff and volunteers, children, young people, adults at risk and their families, treat each other with respect and are comfortable about sharing concerns.

## Contact details

### Nominated Child Protection/Safeguarding Lead

Name: Kerry Leeson-Beevers

Phone/email: [Kerry.leeson@alstrom.org.uk](mailto:Kerry.leeson@alstrom.org.uk)

### Deputy Child Protection/Safeguarding Lead

Name: Catherine Lewis

Phone/email: [Catherine.lewis@alstrom.org.uk](mailto:Catherine.lewis@alstrom.org.uk)

## NSPCC

The NSPCC helpline is staffed by trained professionals who can provide expert advice and support. They are available if you're concerned about a child, if you're a parent or carer looking for advice, or if you're a professional in need of information and guidance.

Helpline: 0808 800 5000

Email: [help@nspcc.org.uk](mailto:help@nspcc.org.uk)

## Review

This Policy and these procedures will be regularly monitored and reviewed annually:

- In accordance with changes in legislation and guidance on the protection of children and adults at risk or any changes within **Alström Syndrome UK**
- Following any issues or concerns arising about the protection of children or adults at risk within **Alström Syndrome UK**
- In all other circumstances, at least annually.

Signed: 

Ann Chivers

Date: 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2020

Signed: 

Kerry Leeson-Beevers

Date: 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2020

Signed: 

Catherine Lewis

Date: 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2020

## Legal framework

This policy has been drawn up on the basis of legislation, policy and guidance that seeks to protect children/adults at risk in England/Northern Ireland/Scotland/Wales

A summary of the key legislation is available from <https://learning.nspcc.org.uk/>