



# Time to Talk Next Steps



## Safeguarding Statement

NDTi believes that adults, children, and young people should never experience abuse of any kind. Our approach to safeguarding across all of our work is set out within our **Identifying and Reporting Abuse Policy**. We have a responsibility to promote the welfare of all children and young people in our children and young people's programmes, to keep them safe and to practise in a way that protects them.

This statement sets out specifics and the underpinning principles in relation to our work with young people (aged 16-25 years) who take part in the Time to Talk Next Steps programme. It is applied to anyone working for or on behalf of NDTi, including all staff, the board, volunteers, associates, agency staff, and students.

**Specifically, we use the policy to:**

- protect children and young people who access Time to Talk Next Steps support sessions
- provide staff and associates, as well as children and young people and their families, with the overarching principles that guide our approach to child protection

**We recognise that:**

- the welfare of children is paramount in all the work we do and in all the decisions we take
- all children, regardless of age, disability, gender reassignment, race, religion or belief, sex, or sexual orientation have an equal right to protection from all types of harm or abuse
- some children are additionally at risk because of the impact of previous experiences, their level of dependency, communication needs, or other issues
- working in partnership with children, young people, their parents and carers, and other agencies is essential in promoting young people's welfare

**We will seek to keep children and young people safe by:**

- applying our Identifying and Reporting Abuse Policy in Time to Talk Next Steps
- valuing, listening to and respecting children and young peoples voice
- providing effective management for staff through supervision, support, training, and quality assurance measures so that all staff and those who work with or on behalf of us know about and follow our policies and procedures confidently and competently
- recruiting and selecting staff and associates safely, ensuring all necessary checks are made
- recording, storing, and using information professionally and securely, in line with data protection legislation and guidance
- making sure that children, young people and their families know where to go for help if they have a concern
- building a safeguarding culture where staff and those working on behalf of NDTi, children, young people and their families, treat each other with respect and are comfortable about sharing concern

**We will seek to keep young people accessing Time to Talk Next Steps safe by having:**

- clear safeguarding guidance for all young people, family members, carers, staff and associates involved in the project.
- programme specific risk assessment and reporting procedures
- designated safeguarding leads
- enhanced Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) for all staff
- all staff trained in Safeguarding children with SEND training (NSPCC).

**The designated safeguarding leads for the Time to Talk Next Steps project are:**

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