

AMI SAFEGUARDING POLICY STATEMENT

This policy applies to all staff, including senior managers and the board of trustees, paid staff, volunteers/ sessional workers, agency staff, students or anyone working on behalf of AMI.

The purpose of this policy is:

- To protect children and young people who receive AMI services. This includes the children of adults who use our services.
- To provide staff and volunteers with the overarching principles that guide our approach to safeguarding.

AMI believes that a child or young person should never have to experience abuse of any kind. We have a responsibility to promote the welfare of all children and young people and to keep them safe. We are committed to practice in a way that protects them.

Legal framework

This policy has been drawn up on the basis of law and regulations that seeks to protect children, namely:

- United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child
- General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) 2018
- 'Algemene Verordening Gegevensbescherming (AVG)' 2016 (Dutch privacy regulations)
- 'Wet Bescherming Persoonsgegevens' 2017 (2017 Dutch Legislation on personal data protection)
- 'Richtlijn voor strafvordering seksueel misbruik minderjarigen' 2015 (2015 Dutch Penal Code: Government Directive sexual abuse minors)
- Relevant Government guidelines on safeguarding children

Policy

We recognise that:

- The Welfare of the child is paramount, as displayed in the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child
- Some children and young adults are especially vulnerable due to the impact of previous experiences, their level of dependency, their communication needs or other issues
- All children regardless of their age, disability, gender, race, religious beliefs, sexual orientation or identity, have the right to equal protection from harm
- Working in partnership with young people, their parents, vulnerable adults, carers and other agencies is essential in promoting the welfare of those we need to protect.

We will aim to keep children safe by:

- Valuing them, listening to them and respecting them as individuals
- Implementing thorough procedures and a code of conduct for staff and volunteers which adopts child protection best practices
- Providing effective management for all staff and volunteers through supervision, support and training
- Recruiting staff and volunteers using safer recruitment best practice, ensuring all necessary checks are completed
- Sharing information about child protection and good practice with children, parents, staff and volunteers
- Sharing concerns with relevant agencies and involving parents and children appropriately

- Informing all visitors of AMI of policies and safeguarding expectations

Annual review

We are committed to reviewing our policies and good practice annually.

This statement was last reviewed on 1 November 2022.



Lynne Lawrence
Executive Director
Association Montessori Internationale