



Soundabout Policy for Online Safety

Soundabout

Soundabout provides both interactive musical activity and training opportunities to others based on our innovative techniques working with people with learning disabilities. Soundabout works across a wide range of settings and across all age groups. As of March 2020, Soundabout has been developing delivering music making sessions and training online, this policy document is to help underpin that work.

The Purpose of this Policy

This purpose of this policy is to:

- Ensure that all people accessing Soundabout online can do so safely in any format
- Share this information with our paid staff, volunteers and users so that everyone is aware of our approach
- Ensure that as an organisation, we operate in line with our values and within the law in terms of how we use the internet and any electronic means to deliver our services to people with disabilities

Who is this Policy For?

This document is for all paid staff, volunteers (including trustees) and anyone who accesses our services online including parents, carers, training delegates and people with learning disabilities of all ages.

We Believe That:

- People with a learning disability should never experience abuse of any kind
- People with a learning disability should be able to access resources online for education and personal development, but appropriate safeguards need to be in place to ensure they are kept safe at all times

We Recognise That:

- The online world provides everyone with many opportunities, however it can also present risks and challenges
- We have a duty to ensure that all children, young people and adults involved in our organisation are protected from potential harm online
- All people with a learning disability have the right to equal protection from all types of harm or abuse

We will Keep People Safe By:

- Having a 'Delivering Online' working document that we develop and refine over time that sets out practical guidance for staff and volunteers on our approach to delivering work online
- Having a practical guide to online safety for all people accessing Soundabout virtually, this will provide a 'snapshot' of our approach with reference to key policies or external resources for more information, it will be produced in an accessible format
- Share ideas and considerations with all people accessing our services online to promote safe access and good practice
- Link our existing safeguarding procedures to our online work, so that everyone knows how to raise any concerns
- Review and update any online security systems as necessary
- Ensure that personal information related to people with a learning disability, their parents/carers, staff, volunteers, and our charity supporters is held securely and in accordance with our GDPR and Data Protection Policy
- Endeavour to provide further support and training/signposting for staff and volunteers about safety online when appropriate or if requested

If an online safeguarding incident occurs, we will respond to it by:

- Engaging our usual incident reporting and follow up procedures for any safeguarding related incidents that occur
- Referring to our Policy documents (see below) for any detailed information and/or further instruction
- Ensuring that we always act on any incident report and that this is logged in accordance to our Privacy and Data Policy

Related Policies and Procedures

This Policy statement should be read alongside our organisational policies and procedures, including:

- Soundabout Safeguarding Children and Adults at Risk Policy
- Soundabout Privacy Policy
- Soundabout Lone Working Policy

- Soundabout Volunteering Policy
- Soundabout Photo, Audio, Video Policy
- Soundabout Delivering Online Working Document*
- Soundabout Practical Guide to Keeping People Safe Online Document*

*These documents are currently in development as of May 2020

Contact Details

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This Policy document was written 11th May 2020 (updated July 2022) and will be reviewed annually.