

Vulnerable Adult & Child Protection Policy Statement

We are committed to protecting vulnerable adults and children from harm. Our dental team accepts and recognises our responsibilities to develop awareness of the issues that may cause children and vulnerable adults harm, to understand what signs to look out for and to know what to do if they suspect a patient is at risk of harm or abuse.

We will endeavour to safeguard our vulnerable patients by

- adhering to our Safeguarding Vulnerable Adult and Children Policy
- making staff and patients aware that we take vulnerable adult and child protection seriously and will respond to concerns about the welfare of any vulnerable patient
- sharing information about concerns with agencies who need to know and involving parents, carers and children appropriately
- following our staff recruitment procedures carefully
- providing effective management for staff by ensuring access to supervision, support and training

Our policy is underpinned by the following principles:

- Patients have access to information and knowledge to ensure that they can make an informed choice.
- Patients are given the opportunity to consider the various treatment options available to them. They are encouraged to participate fully in their care at the practice.
- Patients are supported to make their own decisions and to give or withhold consent to treatment. Unless provided for otherwise by law, no-one can give or withhold consent on behalf of another adult
- Information about patients held by the practice is managed appropriately and all members of the team understand the need for confidentiality.
- The individual needs of each patient are respected.
- The background and culture of all patients is respected.
- Practice procedures ensure the safety of patients.

We will review our Safeguarding Policy and good practice on this subject area at regular intervals.