



Safeguarding Children & Young People Policy

Version Control

This is version 1 of the Safeguarding Children & Young People Policy, effective from 19/05/2026

Approved by NewArch Homes Board: 19/05/2026

Next Review Date: 19/05/2028

Policy Owner: Georgia Kirby-Watt (Operations Director for NewArch Homes)

This policy applies to residents in NewArch rented and shared ownership homes

This policy has been written using recognised best practice and reflects our current approach at the time of publication.

Our approach to safeguarding children and young people

At NewArch Homes, your safety and wellbeing are our top priorities. We are committed to ensuring that all children and young people can live free from harm, abuse, and neglect. This policy explains how we protect children and young people at risk, what support is available, and how we respond to concerns.

What this policy means for you

This policy applies to all residents who are yet to reach their 18th birthday, staff, managing partners, and representatives working on behalf of NewArch over the age of 18. We expect everyone to help create a safe and inclusive environment. We do not tolerate abuse, neglect, or exploitation of any kind. Our team is trained to recognise and respond to safeguarding concerns with empathy and professionalism.

Where this policy uses the term ‘we or us’, it refers specifically to both Management Partners, who are responsible for putting this policy into practice on a day-to-day basis, and NewArch who will be ensuring this is happening as expected by seeking regular assurance and reporting.

If you need help, have a question, or wish to report an issue, you should always contact your Management Partner in the first instance, as they are your main point of contact for managing your home.

How we manage safeguarding concerns

If you are worried about a child or young person, you can report your concerns by phone, email, online, in writing, or in person. We will agree a safe way to communicate and work with you to create an action plan. Each case is managed with care and sensitivity, and we will involve specialist support services or partner agencies, such as the police or children’s social services, where appropriate.

Recognising abuse

We recognise that abuse can take many forms, including:

- Physical abuse
- Domestic abuse
- Psychological or emotional abuse
- Neglect
- Sexual abuse
- Spirit possession and witchcraft
- Induced illness or fabrication
- Forced marriage
- Female genital mutilation
- Infant oral mutilation
- Trafficking

- Bullying
- E-abuse
- Gang activity
- County Lines exploitation
- Violent extremism

An integral part of children's and young people's safeguarding is child protection. Child protection is the specific activity which protects children who have been identified as suffering, or at risk of suffering, significant harm.

Safeguarding can relate to a wide range of activities - from prevention of harm or abuse to multi-agency responses where harm or abuse occurs.

Prevention, intervention and support

The guiding principles to safeguarding are based upon the key principle that safeguarding is everyone's responsibility.

NewArch adopts the four "R's" of safeguarding to remind everyone of these responsibilities.

Recognise

Everyone must be familiar with the signs and symptoms of abuse

Record

Concerns and observations of abuse will be accurately recorded

Report

Concerns and observations of abuse will be reported in accordance with safeguarding policies

Refer

If there is an immediate risk to a vulnerable child or young person, there will be no delay in calling the police or other appropriate agencies

NewArch recognises that the welfare of the child is paramount and value the importance of seeking the voice of the child and responding to it appropriately.

Children have said that they need:

Vigilance

- To have adults notice when things are troubling them:
- NewArch will ensure that Managing Partners carry out training with all staff to spot signs of abuse and safeguarding concerns.

Understanding and action

- To understand what is happening; to be heard and understood; and to have that understanding acted upon.
- NewArch and our managing partners will have clear and accessible Safeguarding Children and Young People Procedures.

Stability

- To be able to develop an ongoing stable relationship of trust with those helping them.
- NewArch will work with the relevant Safeguarding Children's Board in order to protect children and young people from harm.

Explanation

- To be informed of the outcome of assessments and decisions and reasons when their views have not met with a positive response.
- NewArch will work to achieve effective information sharing and be honest about their responsibilities to report and share their concerns to ensure all children and young people are safe.

Support

- To be provided with support in their own right as well as a member of their family.
- NewArch will ensure that effective measures to safeguard children are not seen in isolation from the wider range of support and services available to meet the needs of children and their families.

Advocacy

- To be provided with advocacy to assist them in putting forward their views.
- NewArch will ensure there is effective joint working between agencies and practitioners that have different roles and expertise, knowing when to make referrals (with consent).

Protection

- To be protected against all forms of abuse and discrimination and the right to special protection and help if a refugee.

- NewArch will align its services with wider Government and Local Authority guidance and initiatives.

Confidentiality

We respect the privacy of all parties involved. Information is shared only with consent, unless there's a safeguarding concern. All data is handled in line with data protection legislation.

Equality and diversity

We're committed to making reasonable adjustments to meet the diverse needs of our tenants, ensuring everyone has fair access and outcomes.

Appeals and complaints

If you're not happy with a decision made under this policy, you can appeal using our Complaints Policy.

Policy management and review

Our Board oversees this policy, which is reviewed every two years, or sooner if needed. We monitor performance and ensure compliance with legal and regulatory requirements. Material changes to this policy may also be subject to resident consultation.

Reporting to board includes:

- Management Partner compliance with the policy

Related policies and documents

This policy works alongside:

- Children Act 1989 and 2004
- Children and Social Work Act 2017
- Equality Act 2010
- Working Together to Safeguard Children 2023
- General Data Protection Regulation 2016
- Human Rights Act 1998
- United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child
- Care Act 2014
- Housing Acts 1996 and 2004
- Mental Capacity Act 2005
- Regulator's Neighbourhood and Community Standard
- Safeguarding Adults Policy

- Antisocial Behaviour, Community Safety and Hate Crime Policy
- Whistleblowing Policy

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Appendix

Type	Full Definition
Safeguarding Children as defined in 'Working Together to Safeguard Children' 2023	• Providing help and support to meet the needs of children as soon as problems emerge; • Protecting children from maltreatment, whether that is within or outside the home, including online; • Preventing impairment of children's mental and physical health or development; • Ensuring that children grow up in circumstances consistent with the provision of safe and effective care; • Promoting the upbringing of children with their birth parents, or otherwise their family network, through a kinship arrangement, whenever possible and where this is in the best interest of the children; and • Taking action to enable all children to have the best outcomes in line with the outcomes set out in the Children's Social Care National Framework.