



Red Lorry Therapy

Safeguarding Policy

Red Lorry Therapy delivers independent speech and language therapy to children in their homes, preschools and schools or via teletherapy. It is owned by Sarah James, speech and language therapist.

Red Lorry Therapy does not employ any persons, therefore this policy applies only to Sarah James, any student working under the guidance of Sarah James and any speech and language therapist associate of Red Lorry Therapy.

The purpose of this policy is to:

Protect from harm and promote the welfare of the children and young people who receive services from Red Lorry Therapy.

Red Lorry Therapy believes that:

- No child should ever experience neglect or abuse of any kind (physical, emotional, sexual)
- We have a responsibility to work in a way that keeps children safe from abuse and promotes their welfare.

Red Lorry Therapy recognises that:

- The welfare of children is paramount in all that we do and all the decisions we take
- All children, regardless of age, sex, race, religion, disability, gender or sexual orientation, have an equal right to protection from harm and abuse
- Some children are especially vulnerable to abuse and neglect due to their communication needs, level of dependency, previous experience and other issues. Extra safeguards may be necessary for these vulnerable children.
- Working in partnership with the child, their parents, carers and other agencies in the child's life is essential in promoting the child's welfare.

Red Lorry Therapy will keep children safe by:

- Valuing and respecting children.
- Listening to children, however and whatever they communicate
- Ensuring that safeguarding training is up to date
- Ensuring that all necessary checks (e.g. DBS – Disclosure & Barring Service) are made on Sarah James, any student and any speech and language therapist associate of Red Lorry Therapy. Service users will be able to view evidence of these checks at any time.
- Using the appropriate safeguarding and child protection procedures to share relevant information with agencies who need to know and involving the child, their parent(s)/carer(s) and families as appropriate.
- Following the safeguarding policies and procedures of the setting when visiting a child in an educational setting.
- All personal data will be recorded, used and stored securely in line with Data protection guidance and Red Lorry Therapy's Privacy Policy

Duty of Care and Confidentiality:

Red Lorry Therapy has a duty of care to all children receiving a service from them.

Sarah James, any student and any associate of Red Lorry Therapy will maintain confidentiality unless doing so places any individual at risk.

Procedure in the event of a disclosure or allegation:

It is important the person being informed of a disclosure or allegation:

- Stays calm and listens carefully
- Does not ask leading questions
- Reassures the child that they have done the right thing in telling an adult
- Explains that they will need to tell someone else
- Does not promise to tell the child that they will keep the disclosure or allegation a secret
- Makes a written record of the disclosure or allegation and signs and dates it. Any such record will be stored in a securely locked cabinet. The record will be shared with other services as appropriate.
- Does not inform the person about whom the disclosure or allegation is made, if it is judged that to do so would place the child at increased risk of harm.
- Informs the Safeguarding Lead if the disclosure or allegation occurs in an educational setting

- In all other locations, the person contacts: ***Hampshire Children's Services on 0300 555 1384 in working hours and 0300 555 1373 out of hours***. The person then takes action as recommended by Hampshire Children's Services Safeguarding team, including completing an Inter Agency Referral Form (IARF) if agreed

Procedure in the event of a concern:

- a) If there is an immediate threat of harm, the Police will be contacted
- b) If there is no immediate threat of harm, the following will occur:
 - If at an educational setting, the concern will be discussed with the Safeguarding Lead
 - If at any other setting, the concern will be discussed with the Safeguarding Team at Hampshire Children's Services (see contact details above).

Actions will then be taken as agreed with the Safeguarding Lead or Hampshire Children's Services. A written record will be made of the conversations, signed and dated. The record will be stored in a securely locked cabinet and shared with other agencies as appropriate.

Supporting information:

- Sarah James is registered with the Health and Care Professions Council (HCPC), the professional body that regulates standards for speech and language therapist: reg no = SLO5642
- Sarah James is a member of the Royal College of Speech & Language Therapists (RCSLT), which provides public liability insurance: member no = RC012681
- Sarah James is a member of the Association of Speech & Language Therapists in Private practice (ASLTIP): membership no = 3132
- Sarah James has an enhanced Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) check: Certificate no = 0016 0194 3241
- Sarah James is registered with the Information Commissioners Office (ICO) as a data controller: Ref no = ZA297408
- Red Lorry Therapy's Privacy Policy and Terms & Conditions are available to view on Red Lorry Therapy's website: www.redlorrytherapy.co.uk A paper or PDF copy is also available on request.

This policy was reviewed on 10/12/22

Signed: **Sarah James**

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