



E-Safety Policy

Purpose;

Unique Support for Unique People (US4UP) works with children in their homes, and sometimes taking part in activities out in the community as part of their learning and development. In cases of adverse weather conditions, it may be possible to have sessions online. The safety and wellbeing of children and young people is paramount to the service that is provided. Everyone deserves to feel safe online. To prevent online harm and abuse, it is necessary to provide children, young people and their parents/carers with the knowledge of how to reduce the risks associated with the internet. US4UP have open communication to discuss potential issues and online safety, having clear boundaries of the online activities that are provided and ask parents to ensure that they have control to filter and monitor online usage to reduce the risks of inappropriate content.

Legal framework;

This policy has been drawn up on the basis of legislation, policy and guidance that seeks to protect children in England. Summaries of the key legislation and guidance are available on:

- online abuse
- bullying
- child protection.

We believe that;

- Children and young people should never experience abuse of any kind

- Children should be able to use the internet for education and personal development. Safeguards need to be in place to ensure they are kept safe at all times. This is achieved by providing awareness, constant supervision, open communication so that the child may come to you or another safe adult if and when issues arise.

US4UP recognise that;

- The online world provides everyone with many opportunities; however it can also present risks and challenges
- Unique Support for Unique People have a duty to ensure that all children, young people and adults involved in the organisation are protected from potential harm online
- US4UP have a responsibility to help keep children and young people safe online
 - Working in partnership with children, young people, their parents, carers and other agencies/professionals is essential in promoting young people's welfare and in helping young people to be responsible in their approach to online safety
- All children, regardless of age, disability, gender reassignment, race, religion or belief, sex or sexual orientation, have the right to equal protection from all types of harm or abuse.

US4UP will keep Children and Young People safe by;

- Providing clear and specific directions- children to only use their personal devices for the purpose of learning whilst being supported by US4UP.
- Supporting and encouraging the young people using the service to use the internet and mobile phones in a way that keeps them safe and shows respect for others
- Supporting and encouraging parents and carers to do what they can to keep their children safe online
- Have clear procedures to enable us to respond appropriately to any incidents of inappropriate online behaviour, whether by an adult or a child or young person
- Reviewing and updating the security of our information systems regularly

- Ensuring personal information about the adults and children who are involved in our organisation is held securely and shared only as appropriate
- Ensuring that written permission is obtained if any images are taken of children, young people and families and only for the purpose for which consent has been given.

If online abuse occurs, US4UP will respond to it by;

- Ensure Safeguarding training is up to date. Along with having clear and robust safeguarding procedures in place for responding to abuse (See Safeguarding Policy)
- Recognising all forms of abuse, including bullying or cyberbullying, emotional abuse, grooming, sexting, sexual abuse and sexual exploitation
- Making the needs of the person experiencing abuse a priority and ensuring they understand the information that is being provided to them to keep them safe

Share the information on the online abuse with the commissioner and relevant professionals to ensure a transparent plan can be agreed

- Reviewing the plan developed to address online abuse at regular intervals, in order to ensure that any problems have been resolved in the long term.

Policy to be reviewed January 2027