



SAFEGUARDING

YOUNG PEOPLES EDITION



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2023 Version

Who are the designated safeguarding leads?

A Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) is the person(s) appointed to make sure that Affinity adheres to their safeguarding policies and take lead responsibility for child protection issues in the agency.

The person fulfilling this role must be a senior member of Affinity's leadership team.

At Affinity, Lesley Day Smith is the Designated Safe Guarding Lead.

Lesley is a qualified Social Worker and has undertaken Level 3 Designated Safeguarding training.

It is worth noting that it is not the responsibility of the designated safeguarding leads to decide whether a child has been abused or not. That is the responsibility of investigative statutory agencies such as Children's Social Work Services, or the police.



The six principles of safeguarding are:

- Empowerment. People being supported and encouraged to make their own decisions and informed consent.
- Prevention. It is better to act before harm occurs.
- Proportionality. The least intrusive response appropriate to the risk presented.
- Protection
- Partnership
- Accountability



Lesley Day-Smith

01245 237 158



Introduction from Lesley Day- Smith, Affinity's Practice Manager, Designated Safeguarding Lead and Complaints Officer

I'd just like to take this opportunity to introduce myself – my name is Lesley Day-Smith, and my role at Affinity is Practice Manager, Designated Safeguarding lead, and 1st line Complaints Officer.

Some of you may already know me, as I have been working for Affinity for many years now. I am also a Senior Supervising Social Worker and have worked with a number of our foster carers, children and young people.



One of my roles and responsibilities is to manage any initial complaints up to level one – anyone from a child/young person/parent/foster carer or anyone else who Affinity are providing a service to, can make a complaint under this procedure.

My other roles and responsibilities are to help with the recruitment, selection and induction of new team members. Assisting and supervising Affinity's supervising social workers- so I get to hear about all the achievements you make. I can also be involved in coordinating leave and training arrangements within the team to ensure that our standards of care can be maintained.

If you ever want to speak to me, please do – you'll find my contact details in your young person's handbooks. I look forward to seeing or speaking to you soon.

Yours Sincerely, Lesley Day- Smith