



helping you to do the stuff you want to do

m-LAH Safeguarding Policy

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Introduction

This document outlines the safeguarding policy for m-LAH groups. The policy is designed to ensure that m-LAH group members can attend meetings free from harm or abuse.

WHAT IS m-LAH

m-LAH is a group-based, talking therapy aimed at young people. m-LAH group members support each-other to help them achieve their ambitions. Membership of an m-LAH group is voluntary.

SPONSORING INSTITUTION

m-LAH is often run within a Sponsoring Institution (SI). The Sponsoring Institution (SI) is often a school, college, university or other. Where there is a Sponsoring Institution (SI), that SI has a duty of care.

DUTY OF CARE

Duty of care means that every member of an m-LAH group, regardless of age, disability, gender, racial heritage, religious belief, sexual orientation or identity, has a right to equal protection from all types of harm or abuse.

LEADER

Where there is an SI, the SI must appoint an m-LAH Leader :

- the m-LAH Leader is responsible for the well-being of m-LAH group members
- the m-LAH Leader must read the reports from all of their m-LAH meetings
- the m-LAH Leader is responsible for allowing or suspending group meetings

FACILITATOR

The m-LAH Leader should ensure that each m-LAH group has a Facilitator. The Facilitator must complete a meeting report at the end of each meeting.

MEETING REPORTS

The m-LAH Facilitator must complete a meeting report at the end of each meeting. The meeting report is completed by using the m-LAH App. The meeting report has three states ; green, orange, red.

GREEN

When there is nothing untoward to report.

The Facilitator presses the green button.

For the vast majority of meetings, the Facilitator will simply press the green button.

ORANGE

Orange means there is an issue to report.

However the Facilitator feels confident that the group should meet again.

- the Facilitator presses the orange button
- the Facilitator fills out a text box outlining the issue
- the text is emailed to the m-LAH Leader

The Facilitator feels confident to continue facilitating the group.

The m-LAH Facilitator and m-LAH Leader may agree to meet to discuss the issue.

RED

Red means ... an issue to report and the group should be suspended.

- the Facilitator presses the red button
- the Facilitator fills out a text box outlining the issue
- the text is emailed to the m-LAH Leader

The group is automatically suspended.

The m-LAH Facilitator and m-LAH Leader must discuss the issue.

The m-LAH Leader may decide to re-activate the group.

WHEN TO REPORT ?

ANONYMITY, CONFIDENTIALITY AND SAFEGUARDING

One of the guiding principles of m-LAH is anonymity.

Anonymity of members should be respected.

Member's utterances should be treated as confidential.

UK law however allows the sharing of confidential information within organisations if there is a safeguarding concern.

Facilitators have a duty of care to protect members from all types of harm or abuse. If there is a concern over abuse or harm the Facilitator should report it.

RULES GOVERNING BEHAVIOUR OF FACILITATORS

The rules for behaviour should be taken from the rules of the Sponsoring Institution. All Facilitators should adhere to the rules and values of the Sponsoring Institution. Facilitators may be members of staff or students but all Facilitators must adhere to the expected behaviours outlined in the Sponsoring Institution's policies.

RULES GOVERNING BEHAVIOUR OF m-LAH GROUP MEMBERS

The rules for behaviour should be taken from the rules of the Sponsoring Institution. All m-LAH group members should adhere to the rules of the Sponsoring Institution. m-LAH group members may be students or members of staff but they should all adhere to the expected behaviours outlined in the Sponsoring Institution's policies.

If behaviour of an m-LAH group member falls beneath the expected behaviour they should be asked to leave the group.

Membership of an m-LAH group is voluntary.

The voluntary nature of m-LAH means that bad behaviour is very rare.