

Safeguarding Statement

The Potter Practice is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children, young people, and vulnerable adults.

As a regulated healthcare professional registered with the General Chiropractic Council (GCC), I recognise my professional and ethical responsibility to protect patients from harm, abuse, neglect, or exploitation.

Who This Applies To

This safeguarding commitment applies to:

- Patients under the age of 18
- Vulnerable adults
- Any individual who may be at risk due to physical, psychological, or social circumstances

Recognising Safeguarding Concerns

Safeguarding concerns may arise where there are signs of:

- Physical, emotional, or sexual abuse
- Neglect
- Coercion or exploitation
- Domestic abuse
- Situations where a patient may be at risk of serious harm

Concerns may be identified through direct disclosure, clinical findings, or behavioural indicators.

Responding to Concerns

If a safeguarding concern arises:

- The concern will be taken seriously and handled sensitively.
- Appropriate notes will be made within the clinical record.
- Where appropriate, concerns will be discussed with the patient.
- If there is a risk of serious harm, or where required by law, relevant safeguarding authorities or healthcare professionals may be contacted.

This may include contacting:

- The patient's GP
- Local safeguarding teams
- Social services
- The police

The decision to share information without consent will only be made where necessary to protect the individual or others from serious harm and in accordance with legal and professional obligations.

Confidentiality And Safeguarding

Patient confidentiality is always respected. However, confidentiality may be overridden where:

- There is a legal obligation to disclose information
- There is a safeguarding concern
- There is a risk of serious harm to the patient or others

Any such decision will be proportionate and carefully considered.

Professional Commitment

Safeguarding responsibilities are taken seriously. Where appropriate, relevant training and professional guidance are followed to ensure concerns are managed responsibly and in line with current standards.