

# Group Analytic Society International (GASi)

## Safeguarding Policy

**GASi does not engage directly with children or vulnerable adults in its day to day activities, but understands that incidents relating to safeguarding may arise, including in relation to members and/or matters drawn to the attention of the charity.**

1. The purpose of this policy is to:
  - 1.1 provide trustees, members, staff and volunteers with the overarching principles that guide our approach to safeguarding of children and vulnerable adults; and
  - 1.2 To set out our approach in detail to online abuse.
2. **Definitions**
  - 2.1 A **child** is anyone under the age of 18 years.
  - 2.2 A **vulnerable adult** refers to a person, 18 and above, who by reason of: disability, age or illness; the context they are in; or as a result of social and other inequalities; is or may be unable to take care of or to protect him/herself against significant harm or exploitation.
3. **Standards**
  - 3.1 As part of our safeguarding policy, GASi will:
    - (a) promote and prioritise the safety and wellbeing of children and vulnerable adults
    - (b) ensure everyone understands their roles and responsibilities in respect of safeguarding and is provided with appropriate learning opportunities to recognise, identify and respond to signs of abuse, neglect and other safeguarding concerns relating to children and vulnerable adults
    - (c) ensure appropriate action is taken in the event of incidents/concerns of abuse and support provided to the individual/s who raise or disclose the concern
    - (d) ensure that confidential, detailed and accurate records of all safeguarding concerns are maintained and securely stored
    - (e) prevent the employment/deployment of unsuitable individuals

- (f) ensure robust safeguarding arrangements and procedures are in operation.
- 3.2 The policy and procedures will be widely promoted and are mandatory for everyone involved in GASi. Failure to comply with the policy and procedures will be addressed without delay and may ultimately result in dismissal/exclusion from the organisation.
- 3.3 **Where relevant, this policy should be read in conjunction with the Online Abuse Handling & Reporting Policy, the Social Media Policy and the Complaints Procedure.**
- 4. **What is safeguarding?**
  - 4.1 Safeguarding is about embedding practices throughout the organisation to ensure the protection of children and vulnerable adults wherever possible and dealing sensitively and appropriately with the situation should any incident arise which places a child or vulnerable adult at risk or in which a child or vulnerable adult has suffered abuse.
  - 4.2 **It is not the responsibility of anyone in GASi to decide whether or not an individual has been abused. It is however everyone's responsibility to report concerns and comply with this policy.**
  - 4.3 The concern must be reported to one of the Co-Chairs who will consider the circumstances and in conjunction with the other the Co-Chair decide whether further investigation is needed or what other action to take. The Co-Chairs will ensure that all concerns are properly recorded and records kept securely and confidentially.
  - 4.4 If the concern is of a nature which warrants a referral to a statutory agency for safeguarding then the referral will be made without delay. GASi will then cooperate with any investigation in accordance with that statutory agency's safeguarding policies and procedures.
  - 4.5 If there is a serious or immediate safeguarding concern which places a child or vulnerable adult at risk, anyone can make a referral to the police or other relevant statutory agency to prevent harm.

**If the Co-Chairs are unavailable for any reason then the concern must be reported to one of the of the other trustees.**