

## Safeguarding Statement

At **Optimal Dental Health Limited**, we are committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of **children, young people, and vulnerable adults** who attend our practice. We have a duty to help prevent abuse, recognise concerns, and respond appropriately when safeguarding issues are suspected or reported.

We ensure that all patients and members of our team are treated with **courtesy, dignity, fairness and respect at all times**. Abuse of any kind is unacceptable and will never be tolerated. Our practice promotes a culture in which concerns can be raised safely and are dealt with promptly and appropriately.

Our dental team recognises its responsibility to remain vigilant and aware of the signs of abuse or neglect. While we are not responsible for diagnosing abuse, we are responsible for **sharing concerns appropriately with the relevant safeguarding authorities**.

Safeguarding is the responsibility of every member of the team, regardless of role or seniority. Failure to report or appropriately manage safeguarding concerns may be treated as a **disciplinary matter**.

To support safeguarding within our practice, we:

- Follow national **safeguarding and child protection guidelines** and established protocols
- Ensure all team members understand their safeguarding responsibilities
- Provide appropriate **training, supervision and support** for staff
- Follow strict **recruitment procedures**, including enhanced DBS checks
- Promote **equal opportunities and anti-discriminatory practices** that respect age, culture, disability, ethnicity, gender, race, religion and sexuality
- Work collaboratively with **local safeguarding authorities and other agencies** when concerns arise

### Safeguarding Lead

The Practice Safeguarding Lead is **Dr James Goolnik**  
**0203 921 1000** [hello@optimaldental.co.uk](mailto:hello@optimaldental.co.uk)

### Reporting Concerns

#### Safeguarding Adults (Westminster Adult Social Care)

☎ 020 7641 2176 (9:00am – 5:00pm)

☎ 020 7641 6000 (out of hours)

✉ [adultsocialcare@westminster.gov.uk](mailto:adultsocialcare@westminster.gov.uk)

#### Safeguarding Children (Westminster Children's Services)

☎ 020 7641 4000 (9:00am – 5:00pm)

☎ 020 7641 2388 (out of hours)

Further information:

- <https://www.westminster.gov.uk/children-and-families/safeguarding-children>
- <https://www.rbkc.gov.uk/lscp/>

### Emergency

If a child or vulnerable adult is in immediate danger, please contact **Police on 999**.

**Policy Review - This safeguarding statement is reviewed annually or sooner in line with updated guidance or legislative changes. Next Review Date: 23 January 2027**