

Safeguarding Support Officer Apprenticeship

Strengthening Safeguarding Within Maternity Services

Supporting Vulnerable Families. Strengthening Maternity Teams.

Maternity services play a vital role in identifying and responding to the needs of vulnerable women, babies and families.

The Safeguarding Support Officer Apprenticeship helps organisations develop skilled safeguarding professionals who can work alongside or within maternity teams to strengthen support, communication and early intervention.



Why Safeguarding Matters in Maternity Care

Maternity services are often one of the first points of contact for women and families who may be experiencing vulnerability, including domestic abuse, mental health challenges, substance misuse, exploitation, housing difficulties or complex social circumstances.

Safeguarding Support Officers play an important role in ensuring concerns are recognised early, information is shared appropriately, and families receive timely support. By working closely with maternity teams and partner agencies, they help create safer experiences for mothers, babies and families throughout the perinatal journey.

Their contribution supports:

- Early identification of safeguarding concerns
- Improved communication between services
- Coordinated multi-agency working
- Better outcomes for vulnerable families
- Reduced risk through timely intervention
- Consistent and compassionate family support

What Learners Will Gain

Knowledge and Skills in:

- Safeguarding legislation and best practice
- Risk identification and escalation
- Supporting vulnerable women and families
- Multi-agency collaboration
- Professional communication
- Advocacy and family-centred approaches
- Information sharing and record keeping
- Early intervention and prevention
- Contributing to positive safeguarding cultures

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Ideal For

- Maternity Support Workers
- Safeguarding Administrators
- Family Support Workers
- Care Coordinators
- Community Support Practitioners
- Healthcare Support Workers
- Patient Experience Teams
- Staff supporting maternity and neonatal services

Funding Available

Apprenticeship Levy Funding Available for Eligible Employers

Benefits for NHS Trusts and Healthcare Providers

Develop a workforce that can:

- ✓ Strengthen safeguarding pathways
- ✓ Support vulnerable women and families
- ✓ Promote effective multidisciplinary working
- ✓ Enhance family engagement and advocacy
- ✓ Contribute to service improvement
- ✓ Support maternity quality and safety priorities

Programme Outcomes for Employers

On completion of the apprenticeship, learners will be able to confidently support safeguarding processes, coordinate information sharing, contribute to case management activities and work collaboratively with maternity professionals to promote safe and effective care.

This programme helps organisations build internal safeguarding capacity whilst developing confident, knowledgeable staff who understand the complexities of supporting vulnerable women, babies and families.



Find Out More!

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