



## Duty of Care Definition

Resources for Autism has a responsibility to care for individuals, promote their wellbeing and prevent them from anything that results in harm. This is our legal duty of care and something we must abide by.

This means Resources for Autism must act within its abilities and not take on anything that lies outside of our area of competence.

### **Safeguarding**

Having a duty of care is particularly important when it comes to our safeguarding practice. This means those who are attending services are safeguarded from abuse, harm or injury.

Resources for Autism also has a duty to act if we believe others are not upholding their duty of care – for example reporting wrongdoing by individuals providing care or whistleblowing if there are concerns of organisational wrongdoing,

Resources for Autism in addition has a duty to not work beyond its competencies. For example on receiving a disclosure of abuse we must escalate and respond in line with our safeguarding policy. However we must not take the matter into our own hands such as confronting a family member.

Working in accordance with this duty of care is not only a legal requirement but also benefits those we care for as it will make our services of a much higher quality. Improve safety and empower people to raise concerns.

### **Ways we demonstrate duty of care**

- Communicating well and in a way that meeting individual needs and communication methods.

- Addressing any concerns.
- Following policy
- Ensuring individuals privacy and dignity.
- Gaining consent from individuals
- Completing comprehensive plans for individuals to access service
- Providing person centred care and keeping information up to date
- Conducting risk assessments
- Attending up to date training for all staff.