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Introduction

Making Safeguarding Personal ('MSP') is a shift from process-driven safeguarding to a person-led, outcome-focused approach.

It supports the **Care Act 2014**, which places a legal duty on local authorities to promote individual well-being and ensure safeguarding is person-centred and empowering.

MSP helps practitioners meet these duties by tailoring safeguarding to what matters most to the individual, leading to more meaningful and effective outcomes.

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Why is MSP Important?

MSP is important because it ensures safeguarding is not just about protection, but about respecting the person's rights, values, and voice. It:

- **Respects the person's wishes and values**
- **Involves them in decisions** about their safety and support
- **Focuses on outcomes they want to achieve**
- **Promotes dignity, respect, and empowerment**
- **Builds trust and engagement** in safeguarding processes
- **Supports legal duties** under the Care Act and Mental Capacity Act
- **Improves effectiveness** by tailoring safeguarding to the individual

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Core MSP Principles

- Person-Centred:** Focus on what matters to the individual.
- Empowerment:** Support informed choices.
- Prevention:** Act early to reduce risk.
- Proportionality:** Respond appropriately to the level of risk.
- Protection:** Safeguard those unable to protect themselves.
- Partnership:** Work with individuals, families, and agencies.
- Accountability:** Be open and responsible in actions.

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Applying MSP in Practice: Key Tips

- ▶ **Start with the person** – ask what matters to them.
- ▶ **Communicate clearly** – avoid jargon, check understanding.
- ▶ **Support decisions** – apply Mental Capacity Act principles.
- ▶ **Balance risk and choice** – respect autonomy.
- ▶ **Work together** – involve families and agencies.
- ▶ **Record outcomes** – reflect the person's voice.
- ▶ **Reflect and improve** – learn from each experience.

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Remember

- ▶ **MSP is about safeguarding *with* people, not *to* them**—putting the person at the centre of every decision.
- ▶ **Safeguarding should reflect what matters most to the individual**, promoting dignity, respect, and empowerment.
- ▶ **Legal and ethical duties** require empathy, accountability, and balancing risk with rights.
- ▶ **Every interaction counts**—small changes in approach can lead to better outcomes.



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Useful Resources

- ▶ [Making Safeguarding Personal \(MSP\) \(SCIE Resource\)](#)
- ▶ [The Local Government Association's MSP Hub](#)
- ▶ [The Local Government Association's resources to support Making Safeguarding Personal](#)
- ▶ [The Care Act 2014](#)
- ▶ [The Mental Capacity Act Code of Practice](#)
- ▶ [The Human Rights Act 1998](#)
- ▶ [The Voice of the Adult | Salford Safeguarding Adults Board](#)

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Legal and Ethical Considerations

- ▶ **Care Act 2014** – Establishes the legal duty to safeguard adults and promote well-being.
- ▶ **Mental Capacity Act 2005** – Supports decision-making and acting in a person's best interests.
- ▶ **Human Rights Act 1998** – Protects rights to dignity, privacy, and liberty.
- ▶ **Confidentiality vs. Safety** – Balancing privacy with the need to share concerns.
- ▶ **Positive Risk-Taking** – Weighing safety against the person's right to live fully.