

Child Safeguarding Policy (Proposed)

Safeguarding Statement

Our group is committed to providing a safe, welcoming, and inclusive environment for all children and young people. We believe every child has the right to be protected from harm and abuse. We take all safeguarding concerns seriously and will respond appropriately.

Purpose

This policy explains how we will:

- Protect children and young people who take part in our activities.
- Support volunteers and staff to recognise and respond to safeguarding concerns.
- Promote a culture where children's welfare is always the priority.

Who This Policy Applies To

This policy applies to:

- All volunteers.
- Committee members.
- Staff (if applicable).
- Anyone acting on behalf of the group.

Our Commitment

We will:

- Treat every child with respect and dignity.
- Listen to children and take their concerns seriously.
- Provide safe activities and appropriate supervision.
- Recruit volunteers responsibly where appropriate.
- Ensure anyone working regularly with children understands their safeguarding responsibilities.
- Report concerns promptly and appropriately.

Safeguarding Responsibilities

The group committee will appoint a Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL).

Designated Safeguarding Lead:

- Name: _____
- Contact: _____

The DSL is responsible for:

- Receiving safeguarding concerns.
- Keeping records securely.
- Referring concerns to the appropriate agencies where necessary.
- Supporting volunteers with safeguarding issues.

Recognising Abuse

Abuse may be:

- Physical
- Emotional
- Sexual
- Neglect

Children may show changes in behaviour, injuries, fearfulness, withdrawal, or disclose that something has happened.

Responding to Concerns

If someone is worried about a child:

- Stay calm and listen.
- Do not promise to keep secrets.
- Record what was seen or said as soon as possible.
- Report the concern immediately to the DSL.
- If a child is in immediate danger, call 999.

The DSL will decide whether a referral should be made to the local authority children's services or the police.

Code of Conduct

All adults should:

- Be respectful and act as positive role models.
- Avoid being alone with a child where possible.
- Use appropriate language and behaviour.
- Respect children's privacy.
- Never use physical punishment or humiliating behaviour.
- Report any concerns about another adult's behaviour.

Photography

Parents or carers should be informed if photographs are taken during activities. Images should only be used with appropriate consent and stored securely.

Confidentiality

Safeguarding information will only be shared with those who need to know in order to protect a child. Records will be kept securely.

Review

This policy will be reviewed every 24 months or sooner if safeguarding guidance changes.

Policy adopted on: _____

Review date: _____

Signed (Chair/Committee): _____