



Children and young people safeguarding policy statement

Aims of LCCP

- 1) LCCP will monitor the lower River Char to identify, reduce and eventually eliminate sources of river pollution
- 2) LCCP will engage with the local community to raise awareness of the river and to identify ways to separate rainwater and wastewater at source
- 3) LCCP will engage with Wessex Water to investigate and implement nature-based treatment solutions to river pollution.

In order to fulfil these aims we hold community walks, meetings and events and run information stalls which might have activities for children. We also attend or organise other activities - like river monitoring – which could involve children.

The purpose of this policy statement is:

- to protect children and young people who engage in LCCP's activities from harm. This includes the children of adults who use our services
- to provide staff and volunteers, as well as children and young people and their families, with the overarching principles that guide our approach to child protection.

This policy applies to anyone working on behalf of LCCP, including the steering group, paid contractors, volunteers and students.

Legal framework

This policy has been drawn up on the basis of legislation, policy and guidance that seeks to protect children in England. A summary of the key legislation and guidance is available from nspcc.org.uk/childprotection.

We believe that:

- children and young people should never experience abuse of any kind
- we have a responsibility to promote the welfare of all children and young people, to keep them safe and to practise in a way that protects them
- upholding the safeguarding of children from violence, exploitation, abuse and neglect and keeping them safe from risk of significant harm are paramount.

We recognise that:

- the welfare of children is paramount in all the work we do and in all the decisions we take
- working in partnership with children, young people, their parents, carers and other agencies is essential in promoting young people's welfare
- all children, regardless of age, disability, gender reassignment, race, religion or belief, sex, or sexual orientation have an equal right to protection from all types of harm or abuse
- forms of abuse include sexual abuse, harmful sexual behaviour, emotional abuse, domestic abuse, bullying and cyber bullying, child trafficking, FGM, radicalisation

- some children are additionally vulnerable because of the impact of previous experiences, their level of dependency, communication needs or other issues
- extra safeguards may be needed to keep children who are additionally vulnerable safe from abuse.

We will seek to keep children and young people safe by:

- valuing, listening to and respecting them
- appointing a nominated child protection lead for children and young people, a deputy and a lead trustee/board member for safeguarding
- adopting child protection and safeguarding best practice through our policies,
- providing effective management for staff and volunteers through supervision, support, training and quality assurance measures so that all staff, contractors and volunteers know about and follow our policies, procedures and behaviour codes confidently and competently
- recruiting and selecting staff and volunteers safely, ensuring all necessary checks are made
- recording and storing and using information professionally and securely, in line with data protection legislation and guidance [more information about this is available from the Information Commissioner's Office: ico.org.uk/fororganisations]
- making sure that children, young people and their families know they need to go to the Safeguarding lead if they have a concern
- sharing concerns and relevant information with agencies who need to know, and involve children, young people, parents, families and carers appropriately
- using our procedures to manage any allegations against contractors and volunteers appropriately creating and maintaining an anti-bullying environment
- for online events we will ensure that only the invitees will receive a link to attend and measures will be in place to protect children from online abuse and bullying
- online meetings involving children and young people will be run in line with CEOP guidelines
- ensuring that we have effective complaints and whistleblowing measures in place
- working with the local Children's Advice and Duty Service (ChAD) and their reporting system to report and manage abuse (01305 228866)
- ensuring that we provide a safe physical environment for our children, young people, staff and volunteers, by applying health and safety measures in accordance with the law and regulatory guidance
- building a safeguarding culture where staff and volunteers, children, young people and their families, treat each other with respect and are comfortable about sharing concerns.

Contact details

LCCP Lead for Safeguarding and Child Protection

Name: Sandra Reeve

Phone/email: 01297 560511/07734138942 E: sandra@moveintolife.co.uk

NSPCC Helpline

0808 800 5000

We are committed to reviewing our policy and good practice annually.

**Revised and updated
September 2022**