

CHILD PROTECTION POLICY

Children have the right to be properly cared for and protected from violence, abuse and neglect by their parents and anyone looking after them. (Article 19 - UN Convention on the Rights of the Child).

In Wales this is further underpinned by the Rights of Children and Young Persons (Wales) Measure 2011.

As an organisation working with children, the Club has a responsibility to safeguard and promote children's welfare and protect them from harm. The child's welfare is always the paramount consideration and the protection of the child is the Club and the Registered Person's/Responsible Individual's first priority.

The Local Authority is the prime authority for dealing with child protection investigations, although concerns may be reported to a police officer or an officer of the National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children.

The Club takes steps to protect children by:

- Maintaining a child-centred ethos in the Club
- Having a robust staff and volunteer recruitment procedure (this includes maintaining current enhanced CRB disclosures (and where relevant, Independent Safeguarding Authority (ISA) checks, referring to <http://www.isa.homeoffice.gov.uk/> for up to date information and requirements) and checks on fitness references and qualifications in line with relevant daycare regulations
- Having an awareness of [The Protection of Children Act 1999: A practical guide to the Act for all organisations working with children](#) Which relates to the Government's aim of establishing a framework of a coherent cross-sector scheme for identifying those people considered to be unsuitable to work with children.
- Having robust procedures for staff, students, visitors and volunteers.
- Ensuring no student, volunteer, visitor is left unsupervised at any time and a record of their attendance – including dates and times – is kept.
- Ensuring all staff are trained in child protection procedures (this includes recognition of signs of abuse).
- Maintaining appropriate staff: children ratios for the supervision of children (in line with or exceeding regulatory requirements)
- Implementing and maintaining a current risk assessment of all activity in the Club and ensuring adequate insurance cover is provided
- Designating a suitable child protection officer Mr O H Rogers who acts on behalf of the Club in any child protection matters.
- Informing all parents/carers of the child protection policy and procedures (including relevant contact numbers) as each family starts to use the Club.