

West Lavington Youth Club

Safeguarding Children and Young People Policy (including Procedures and Code of Behaviour)

This Policy has been developed in accordance and under the guidance of the:

- Framework for the Assessment of Children in Need and their Families (2000)
- Education Act (2002)
- Children Acts 1989 and 2004
- Safeguarding Vulnerable Groups Act 2006
- Care Act 2014
- Counter-Terrorism and Security Act (2015)
- What to do if You are Worried a Child is being Abused (March 2015)
- Working Together to Safeguard Children (March 2015)
- Keeping Children Safe in Education: Statutory guidance for schools and college (July 2015)
- Revised Prevent Duty Guidance: for England and Wales (Home Office July 2015)
- Guidance for safer working practice those working with children and young people in education settings (Safer Recruitment Consortium October 2015)
- Working Together to Safeguard Children 2018, the Wiltshire Safeguarding Vulnerable People's Partnership and the Local Safeguarding Children Board (Swindon).

This policy deals with the protection of Children and young people, the terms applied to people under the age of 18 years.

West Lavington Youth Club will keep its Safeguarding Children and Young People Policy and Procedures under review to take account of any new Government legislation, regulations or best practice documents to ensure staff are kept fully up to date with their responsibilities and duties.

The welfare of every child and young person in contact with the service remains our priority at all times. This principle is the central tenet of the Children Act and *Working Together to Safeguard Children (2015)*
[Working together to safeguard children - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](http://www.gov.uk)

All staff are issued with a contract of employment and a job description which specifies they must be aware and conform to all club policies.

Safeguarding Strategy

West Lavington Youth Club will:

1. Take a preventive approach to protecting children and young people from potential harm, damage, abuse, radicalisation or being drawn into terrorism (violent and non- violent extremism)
 2. Take all appropriate actions to address concerns about the welfare of children and young people.
 3. Work to agreed local policies and procedures in full partnership with other local agencies.
 4. Plan, implement, monitor and review policies and procedures to ensure that the maximum is done to provide a safe environment for children and young people.
 5. Take all reasonable measures to ensure that risks of harm to children and young people's welfare is minimised by appropriate:
 - Risk assessment and management
 - Health and Safety procedures
 - Vetting staff selection, recruitment, induction supervision and training
 - Creation and promotion of an open work culture "Whistleblowing"
 - Reacting to and reporting abuse
 6. West Lavington Youth Club is committed to promoting the welfare and safety of all who come into contact with it. Protected characteristics are:
 - age
 - disability
 - gender reassignment
 - marriage and civil partnership
 - pregnancy and maternity
 - race
 - religion or belief
 - sex
 - sexual orientation
 7. West Lavington Youth Club will respect the confidentiality of children and young people within clearly defined boundaries which are explained to all service users. They should be supported to give and receive personal information responsibly and in the knowledge of the possible consequences of doing so with reference to our Confidentiality Policy Statement.
1. West Lavington Youth Club holds as one of its highest priorities

the health, safety and welfare of all children and young people.

2. West Lavington Youth Club and its staff, including contractors, have a collective and individual duty of care to ensure that its staff fulfil their responsibilities to prevent the abuse of children or young people, to refer any abuse discovered or suspected and to prevent children and young people from being drawn into terrorism.
3. This Safeguarding of Children and Young People Policy and Procedure will be made available to all parent/carers who will be advised that cases may be referred to the investigative agencies in the interests of the child or young person.
4. West Lavington Youth Club will advise children and young people about the standards of behaviors and conduct they can expect from staff, volunteers and Trustees and of what to do if they experience or suspect abuse.
5. West Lavington Youth Club will work with appropriate agencies, and in particular all relevant Local Authority Child Protection Teams, Safeguarding Boards, Social Service and Local Prevent Partnership Boards to ensure that children and young people are safeguarded through the effective operation of our Safeguarding children and young people's procedures. We adopt in totality the Safer Recruitment Consortium's "Guidance for safer working practice for those working with children and young people in education settings". <https://acrobat.adobe.com/link/review?uri=urn:aaid:scds:US:b8a152be-31a6-3383-80c4-1796a6e49288>
6. A consultative approach will be adopted with all relevant Local Authority Safeguarding Officers, Child Abuse Investigation Teams (CAIT) and the Local Prevent Partnership Board to ensure good practice and the best outcomes for children and young people.
7. West Lavington Youth Club recognises that any child or young person can be subject to abuse or radicalisation and all allegations of abuse or concerns about radicalisation will be taken seriously and treated in accordance with our procedures.
8. West Lavington Youth Club recognises that it is the responsibility of all staff to act upon any concern, no matter how small or trivial it may seem.
9. West Lavington Youth Club recognises the responsibility to implement, maintain and regularly review Safeguarding procedures.
10. We are committed to supporting, resourcing and training those who work with or who come in to contact with children and young people and to providing appropriate supervision.

11. We require all staff to follow our Code of Behaviour which is appended to this policy document, and will draw the attention of staff to this code of conduct and procedures in induction and relevant training.
12. All staff working with children or young people will undertake training to equip them to carry out their responsibilities for Safeguarding including the PREVENT strategy. They will be kept up to date by refresher training at a maximum of three-year intervals. Our Designated Safeguarding Officers will undertake refresher training every two years to keep their knowledge and skills up to date. There is a designated trustee responsible for safeguarding and Prevent and it is our policy that all existing, and newly recruited, trustees undergo an enhanced DBS check and social media audit.
13. West Lavington Youth Club has appointed a Designated Safeguarding Officer who is responsible for co-ordinating action within the organisation and liaising with other agencies. Contact details can be found in Appendix B.
14. West Lavington Youth Club operates safe recruitment procedures and ensures that all appropriate checks are carried out on new staff, volunteers and Trustees who will work or come into contact with children and young people including enhanced Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) checks, Proceeds of Criminal Act (POCA) and list 99.
15. Any deficiencies or weaknesses with regard to safeguarding of children and young people's arrangements will be brought to the attention of the Chair of the trustees and will be remedied without delay.

3.0 - Definition of Abuse

“The act of causing someone distress or harm”

3.1 - Physical Abuse may involve hitting, shaking, throwing, poisoning, burning or scalding, drowning, suffocating, or otherwise causing physical harm to a child. Physical harm may also be caused when a parent or carer fabricates the symptoms of, or deliberately induces, illness in a child.

3.2 - Emotional Abuse is the persistent emotional maltreatment of a child such as to cause severe and persistent adverse effects on the child's emotional development. It may involve conveying to children that they are worthless or unloved, inadequate, or valued only so far as they meet the needs of another person. It may feature age or developmentally inappropriate expectations being imposed on children. These may include interactions that are beyond the child's developmental capability, as well as overprotection and limitation of exploration and learning, or preventing the child participating in normal social interaction. It may involve seeing or hearing the ill-treatment of another. It may involve serious bullying (including cyber bullying), causing children frequently to feel frightened or in danger, or the exploitation or corruption of children. Some level of emotional abuse is involved in all types of maltreatment of a child, though it may occur alone.

3.3 - Sexual Abuse involves forcing or enticing a child or young person to take part in sexual activities, not necessarily involving a high level of violence, whether or not the child is aware of what is happening. The activities may involve physical contact, including assault by penetration (for example rape, buggery or oral sex) or non-penetrative acts such as masturbation, kissing, rubbing and touching outside of clothing. They may include non-contact activities, such as involving children in looking at, or in production of, sexual on-line images, watching sexual activities, or encouraging children to behave in sexually inappropriate ways or grooming a child in preparation for abuse (including via the internet)

3.4 - Neglect is the persistent failure to meet a child's basic physical and/or psychological needs, likely to result in the serious impairment of the child's health or development. Neglect may occur during pregnancy as a result of maternal substance abuse. Once a child is born, neglect may involve a parent or carer failing to:

- Provide adequate food, clothing and shelter (including exclusion from home or abandonment)

- Protect a child from physical or emotional harm or danger
- Ensure adequate supervision (including the use of inadequate care-givers)
- Ensure access to appropriate medical care or treatment

It may also include neglect of, or unresponsiveness to, a child's basic emotional needs.

3.5 - PREVENT - Any young person in danger of radicalisation or demonstrating extremist tendencies is deemed to be vulnerable and appropriate support under the Prevent strategy will be sought. Appropriate support could involve referring the child or young person to Channel.

3.6 - Significant Harm - Some children are in need because they are suffering or likely to suffer significant harm. The Children Act 1989 introduced the concept of significant harm as the threshold that justifies compulsory intervention in family life in the best interests of children.