

Safeguarding children and young people policy



**activity
alliance**

disability
inclusion
sport

activityalliance.org.uk

Contents

Foreward.....	3
Activity Alliance Safeguarding Policy	4
Legal framework	5
Policies	5
Promoting good practice	5
Recognising and responding to a concern and reporting procedures	5
Principles.....	6
Our responsibility.....	7
Definition of children.....	7
Contact details	8

Version: 2	Reason: Update
Approved by: Activity Alliance Board	Approved date: April 2018
Review date: Jan 21	Reviewer: National Events Manager

If you require this document in a different format please contact Info@activityalliance.co.uk

Foreward

At Activity Alliance we have a proud track record of supporting a wide range of people, including leisure facilities, local and national organisations to include disabled people more effectively. Working with a variety of partners we provide insight, training, inclusion programmes and resources.

Crucial to our success in making active lives possible is ensuring that any participation opportunity always provides a safe, inclusive, friendly and enjoyable experience for all participants, which puts the welfare of disabled people as a priority.

We know that everyone working with all children and young people are in a position of trust and we take that responsibility very seriously, with this in mind Activity Alliance have developed comprehensive safeguarding policy, procedures and good practice guidance to promote to everyone we support. Many partners and stakeholders already have comprehensive policies and procedures in place to cover the welfare and duty of care requirements for children and young people. This policy is intended to enhance, support, and provide clear guidance for all our partners and stakeholders alongside all Activity Alliance staff and volunteers.

This updated policy document includes recent statutory guidance for all organisations providing services to children and young people. It sets out how Activity Alliance and individuals should work together to safeguard, encourage and promote the welfare of children and young people in accordance with the Children Acts 1989 & 2004. Adopting and implementing this policy is key for Activity Alliance.

Barry Horne
Chief Executive
Activity Alliance

Activity Alliance Safeguarding Policy

The Activity Alliance works to make active lives possible. We do this by enabling organisations to support disabled individuals to be and stay active. Our work is centred on research and insight with disabled people as well as our engagement with disability and sports organisations.

At Activity Alliance we have a proud track record of supporting a wide range of people, including leisure facilities, local and national organisations to include disabled people more effectively, we are committed to promoting the safety and welfare of all disabled people involved in sport and physical activity, with this in mind Activity Alliance have developed comprehensive safeguarding policy, procedures and good practice guidance to promote to all the people we support.

The aim of this is to ensure we all promote the welfare of all children and young people and their rights to be protected from harm.

As part of that commitment, Activity Alliance have developed comprehensive safeguarding policy, procedures and good practice guidance to promote to all the people we support. This enables all partners, stakeholders, staff and volunteers to understand their safeguarding roles and responsibilities. This includes what they should do if a safeguarding concern arises (directly or indirectly) and how any concerns will be managed in line with government guidance ([Working together to safeguard children](#)) the law, and Local Safeguarding Children Board (LSCB) requirements.

This policy applies to everyone that is involved in the support, planning and/or delivery of participation opportunities, sporting sessions or activities that involve children and young people, including as volunteers.

Any activity promoted, endorsed or run by the Activity Alliance must comply with these policies and procedures and have a safeguarding welfare plan. (Copies of this can be downloaded from the Activity Alliance website <http://www.activityalliance.org.uk/how-we-help/resources/safeguarding>)

Activity Alliance requires that safeguarding children and young people sits within a framework. This is based on the NSPCC Standards for Safeguarding and Protecting Children in Sport, the NSPCC Safe Sport Events, Activities and Competitions guidance, and Sport England Governance requirements. It includes having:

- An overarching safeguarding policy, procedures and implementation plan
- A safeguarding welfare plan for all activities
- Guidance on prevention and best practice, including safe recruitment and vetting
- Policy, procedures and systems for responding to concerns
- Codes of conduct
- A commitment to equity and diversity
- Training and development
- Access to advice and support.

Legal framework

This document has been drawn up on the basis of law and guidance that seeks to protect children and young people, namely:

- [Children Act 1989](#)
- [United Convention of rights of the Child 1991](#)
- [Human Rights Act 1998](#)
- [Sexual Offences Act 2003](#)
- [Children Act 2004](#)
- [Safeguarding Vulnerable Groups Act 2006](#)
- [Protection Freedom Act 2012](#)
- [Children and Families Act 2014](#)
- [Special educational needs and disability \(SEND\) code practice](#): 0-25 years – Statutory guidance for organisations which work with and support children and young people who have special educational needs or disabilities; HM Government 2014
- [Information sharing](#): Advice for practitioners providing safeguarding services to children, young people, parents and carers; HM Government 2015
- [Working together to safeguard children HM Government 2015](#)

This policy should be read alongside our policies, procedures and good practice guidance, these can be found by clicking on the following links or at <http://www.activityalliance.org.uk/how-we-help/resources/safeguarding>

Policies

[Activity Alliance Safeguarding Children and Young Person Policy](#)

[Activity Alliance Missing Participants Policy](#)

[Activity Alliance Safeguarding Adults at Risk Policy](#)

[Activity Alliance Safeguarding Anti Bullying Policy](#)

[Activity Alliance Safeguarding E Safety Policy](#)

[Activity Alliance Safeguarding Photographic Policy](#)

[Activity Alliance Safeguarding Policy Statement](#)

[Activity Alliance Safeguarding Whistleblowing policy](#)

Promoting good practice

[Activity Alliance Risk Assessment Form Template](#)

[Activity Alliance Safeguarding Event Welfare Plan Final](#)

[Activity Alliance Safeguarding Incident Report Form](#)

[Activity Alliance Safeguarding Parental Consent Transporting Children and Young People](#)

[Activity Alliance Staff and Volunteer Code of conduct](#)

[Activity Alliance voluntary and professional employment self declaration form U18](#)

[Activity Alliance voluntary and professional employment self declaration form](#)

Recognising and responding to a concern and reporting procedures

[Activity Alliance Responding to an E Safety Concerns](#)

[Activity Alliance Responding to Safeguarding Concerns about staff and volunteers](#)

[Activity Alliance Responding to Safeguarding Concerns outside of Activity Alliance](#)

[Activity Alliance Safeguarding Complaints procedure](#)

Principles

The Activity Alliance Safeguarding policy is based on the following principles:

- The welfare of disabled children and young people is paramount, as enshrined in the [Children Act 1989](#)
- All disabled people, regardless of age, ability, culture, gender, language, race, ethnicity, religious belief, nationality, social/economic status and/or sexual identity have the right to protection from abuse
- All disabled people have the right to participate in sporting activities in an enjoyable and safe environment that takes account of their individual support, physical and or social development needs
- All incidents of suspected/alleged poor practice or abuse should be taken seriously, be responded to swiftly and appropriately, and in line with Local Safeguarding Children Board (LSCB) multi-agency policy and procedures
- Confidentiality will be upheld in line with Data Protection and Human Rights legislation, but our priority will be safeguarding disabled children and adults who may be at risk.
- The creation and promotion of a culture/environment in which children and young people are valued and their right to be safe is upheld
- Ensure steps are taken to minimise risks of harm to children and young people involved in activities
- Work together with other organisations that have a responsibility for safeguarding and the protection of children and young people, including information sharing when concerns arise.
- Provide, champion and promote an environment that is healthy, safe and secure
- Some children and young people are additionally vulnerable because of the impact of previous experiences, their level of dependency, communication needs or other issues,
- Activity Alliance recognises that deaf and disabled young people can be more vulnerable than other non-disabled children and young people. Reasons for this may include:
 - Increased likelihood of social isolation
 - Fewer outside contacts than non- disabled children
 - Dependency on others for practical assistance in daily living, including intimate care
 - Speech and language communication needs may make it difficult to tell others what is happening
 - Limited access to someone to disclose information specific vulnerability to bullying
- Using the Activity Alliance 'Talk to me' principles through all our safeguarding policies, procedures and good practice.

[Talk to me Principles](#) - This report outlines 10 principles that providers could follow to help make their sport or activity more appealing to and supportive for disabled people

Our responsibility

Activity Alliance is committed to a child and young person centred approach to safeguarding.

Activity Alliance will

- Have a lead officer, deputy and board member for safeguarding
- Ensure all staff undertake basic safeguarding training and more comprehensive safeguarding training where the remit of the role requires this.
- Require all those working for, volunteering at or attending Activity Alliance activities to sign up to the Activity Alliance code of conduct. Including younger participants signing age appropriate codes of behaviour.

[Activity Alliance Staff and Volunteer Code of conduct](#)

[Activity Alliance Event Welfare Plan](#)

- We require all those working, volunteering or who have contact with children and young people to be confident and aware to ensure risk of harm to children is minimal
- Where concerns about children and young people's welfare arise, those who are working with, volunteering with or who have contact with children and young people must be aware of the reporting process. – please see ([Activity Alliance Safeguarding Whistleblowing policy](#)) They should take appropriate action to respond to and share those concerns within Activity Alliance and in some cases with other partner organisations, e.g. clubs, schools, NGBs, CSPs, DPULOs and local statutory agencies.
- Take action against those who breach Activity Alliance policies
- Ensure consistency and share good practice throughout Activity Alliance and the partners we support.
- Continue to review, monitor and update Activity Alliance safeguarding policies in line with government advice.

Definition of children

Children/young people are defined as anyone under 18 years of age. Safeguarding children and young people; promoting their welfare means protecting them from maltreatment, preventing loss of their health and development. It also means ensuring that they grow up in circumstances consistent with the provision of safe and effective care.

Children may experience harm in many ways, through physical abuse, sexual abuse and exploitation, emotional harm and neglect. They may also be harmed through bullying (peer abuse, cyber, sexting and internet abuse), poor coaching, teaching practice, or through circumstances in which they are living, such as domestic abuse, parents with mental health or substance abuse issues.

Deaf and disabled children may have additional needs that must be taken into account when planning safe activities as well as potentially facing additional risks of abuse. These needs may include:

- access to facilities
- adapted or modified equipment
- inclusive coaching practices or aspects of the activity
- provision of trained staff/volunteers to support them.

Further information can be downloaded on the CPSU website www.theCPSU.org.uk

Contact details

Activity Alliance Lead Officer:	Jannine Walker,	
E: jannine@activityalliance.org.uk	M:07725 273158	
Activity Alliance Board Safeguarding Lead:	Rob Belbin	r.belbin@icloud.com
Activity Alliance Safeguarding support at HQ:	Barinder Dale	
E: info@activityalliance.org.uk	T:01509227750	

If the concern is an allegation relating to an adult who is working /volunteering or used to work at any Activity Alliance activity, then you will still need to follow the Activity Alliance Safeguarding reporting structure. The NSPCC Helpline can offer advice if you are not sure what to do

Telephone: 0808 800 5000, Text: 88858, Email: help@nspcc.org.uk;

Online nspcc.org.uk/reportconcern

Textphone/ Webcam (for deaf or hard-of-hearing)18001 0808 800 5000 / SignVideo

The following websites all contain excellent support and resources to assist you with your learning and development.

NSPCC Child Protection in Sport Unit (CPSU)

The Child Protection in Sport Unit (CPSU) is a partnership between the NSPCC, Sport England, Sport Northern Ireland and Sport Wales.

The Unit was founded in 2001 to work with UK Sports Councils, National Governing Bodies (NGBs), County Sports Partnerships (CSPs) and other organisations to help them minimise the risk of child abuse during sporting activities.

www.thecpsu.org.uk

CEOP – The Child Exploitation and Online Protection (CEOP) Centre is dedicated to eradicating the sexual abuse of children. It specialises in reporting internet abuse and has training and support resources to help you with internet and other safety issues.

www.ceop.police.uk

Safe Network – provides free information to any voluntary group, individual or organisation, once you register (it's free) you can download a lot of resources to assist you in developing policies or guidance - <http://www.safenetwork.org.uk>

NAPAC-National Association for People Abused in Childhood - provides help and support

<http://www.napac.org.uk>

For more information, please contact info@activityalliance.org.uk or call 01509 227750

www.activityalliance.org.uk