

Climate Action Ilkley

Child and Vulnerable Adult Safeguarding Policy

Version no.: 1

Last updated: 16 November 2021

1 Note

This policy will be reviewed every year by the group of trustees.

2 Background

Climate Action Ilkley (CAI) aims to promote action to tackle the climate and ecological crises. We recognise that this is very relevant to children and young people and hope and expect that they will wish to be involved in our activities, events and projects. We recognise that:

- The welfare of the child, young person or adult at risk of harm is paramount.
- All children, young persons or adults at risk of harm regardless of age, disability, gender, racial heritage, religious belief, sexual orientation or gender identity, have the right to equal protection from all types of harm or abuse.
- Working in partnership with children, young persons, adults at risk of harm, and their carers and other agencies where relevant, is essential in promoting the welfare of children, young people and adults at risk of harm.

3 Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to:

- Provide protection for children, young people (under 18) and adults at risk of harm.
- Provide members and volunteers with guidance on procedures they should adopt in the event that they suspect a young/vulnerable person may be experiencing harm, or be at risk of experiencing harm.

4 Actions

We will seek to safeguard children, young people and adults at risk of harm by:

- Valuing them, listening to them and respecting them.
- Adopting safeguarding guidelines through procedures and safe working practices for staff and volunteers, including risk assessments where this is necessary.

- Sharing information about safeguarding and safe working practice with children, young people, adults at risk of harm, parents, carers, members and volunteers.
- Sharing information about concerns with agencies who need to know, and involving parents and carers appropriately.
- Providing effective management for members and volunteers through supervision, support and, where necessary, seeking training opportunities.

5 Implementation

In implementing this policy CAI will ensure that:

- All volunteers and members understand their responsibility to protect children, young people and adults at risk from harm, abuse and exploitation.
- All volunteers and members understand their responsibility to work to the standards that are detailed in this policy and work at all times towards maintaining safe working practices.
- All volunteers and members understand their duty to report concerns that arise about a child, young person, adult at risk of harm or a volunteer/member's conduct towards a child/young person/adult at risk of harm to a trustee.
- The trustee so contacted understands her/his responsibility to refer any child or adult protection concerns to the statutory child or adult protection agencies (i.e. Children's Social Care, Adult Social Care and/or Police).
- Any procedures relating to the conduct of volunteers/members are implemented in a consistent and equitable manner.

Safe working Practices means working to create a safe environment. Volunteers/members can help to achieve this by:

- Being friendly, courteous and kind.
- Avoiding favouritism.
- Treating everyone with dignity and respect.
- Never making suggestive or discriminatory comments.
- Respecting personal privacy.
- Avoiding one-to-one contact with children, young people or vulnerable adults who are not personally known to you and whenever possible ensuring other people can see or hear you during any such engagements.
- Not allowing or engaging in any form of inappropriate physical contact.
- Never ignoring or trivialising bullying.
- Challenging unacceptable behaviour and reporting any concerns or allegations of abuse.