

Safeguarding policy

The purpose and scope of this policy statement

The purpose of this policy statement is:

- to protect children and young people from harm who receive support from Worcestershire Solo Warriors. 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.
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This policy applies to anyone working on behalf of Worcestershire Solo Warriors including Managers and Volunteers.

Legal framework

This policy has been drawn up based on legislation, policy and guidance that seeks to protect children in England such as the Children Act 1989.

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.

We recognise that:

- The welfare of children is paramount in all the work we do and in all the decisions we take.

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- 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
 - Some children are additionally vulnerable because of the impact of previous experiences, their level of dependency, communication needs or other issues working in partnership with children, young people, their parents, carers and other agencies is essential in promoting young people's welfare.

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 for safeguarding.

Adopting child protection and safeguarding best practice through our policies, procedures and code of conduct for staff and volunteers.

Developing and implementing an effective online safety policy and related procedures

our policies, procedures and behaviour codes confidently and competently recruiting and selecting staff and volunteers safely, ensuring all necessary checks are made.

Recording, storing and using information professionally and securely, in line with data protection legislation and guidance.

Sharing information about safeguarding and good practice with children and their families via leaflets, posters, group work and one-to-one discussions

Making sure that children, young people and their families know where to go for help if they have a concern.

Using our safeguarding and child protection procedures to share concerns and relevant information with agencies who need to know, and involving children, young people, parents, families and carers appropriately.

Using our procedures to manage any allegations against staff and volunteers appropriately in line with Worcestershire's Children First Policies.

Creating and maintaining an anti-bullying environment and ensuring that we have a policy and procedure to help us deal effectively with any bullying that does arise

Ensuring that we have effective complaints and whistleblowing measures in place

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.

Creating a safeguarding culture where staff and volunteers, children, young people and families treat each other with respect and are comfortable about sharing concerns.

Our policies recognise the obligations and duty of care on groups/organisations working with children and young people as identified in the Children Act 1989 and the Children Act 2004. These acts define children and young people as anyone up to the age of 18 years.

We will ensure that workers and volunteers know how to recognise and respond to concerns that a child or young person may be abused or neglected. This will be reviewed yearly.

The Management Committee will appoint, from within its membership, a Champion for Safeguarding. He/she will report annually to the Management Committee on any safeguarding and/or child protection issues and/or any allegation which have arisen over the previous twelve months.

Contact details

Senior lead for safeguarding and child protection

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worcestershiresolowarriors@gmail.com

NSPCC Helpline

0808 800 5000

Emergency Duty Team (Worcestershire Children's First)

01905 768020

Family Front door

01905 822666

Local Authority Designated Officer for Worcestershire is Jon Hancock

01905 843311 LADO@worcschildrenfirst.org.uk

This policy statement came into force on **13th January 2020**

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

This policy statement and accompanying procedures will be next reviewed on

13th January 2021

Date: ... 