

## **Safeguarding Policy**

Avon River Activities (ARA) is fully committed to safeguarding the welfare of all involved in its activities, and especially children and young people, and will take all reasonable steps to protect them from physical, emotional, sexual or internet abuse and neglect. This applies to all with whom we work, regardless of their gender, sexual orientation, disability, race, nationality or country of origin.

Staff, volunteers and Centre users will, at all times, show respect and understanding for the rights, safety and welfare of all with whom we work. We will ensure that staff and volunteers know how to recognise and respond to concerns that a child or young person may be abused or neglected.

ARA have appointed, a Champion for Safeguarding. ARA work closely with the Pershore Riverside Youth Centre. This provides further cover, support and advice from industry experts. ARA also work with Avon Navigation Trust, who provide further support through their membership of the local support framework organisation 'young solutions'.

The ARA Champion for Safeguarding is Alex Mellor

All staff and volunteers who have unsupervised regular direct contact with children or young people for ARA (ie those undertaking 'regulated activity') are required to have a relevant satisfactory enhanced check through the Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) *before* they can work unsupervised.

We review our policies and procedures on an annual basis.

## **Child Protection Policy**

ARA recognises that the welfare of children and young people is paramount and that we have a duty of care when they are in our charge. We will do everything we can to provide a safe and caring environment whilst they attend our activities.

We will:

- treat all children and young people with respect
- be watchful for children or young people who are experiencing harm or neglect
- respond to disclosures, concerns and allegations appropriately
- adopt good practice with regard to safeguarding children and young people and ensure adherence to our policies and procedures
- ensure that safe recruitment and selection practices are followed
- ensure staff and volunteers are trained in accordance with their roles
- ensure that every adult shares concerns about the welfare of any child or young person with the Designated Person for Child Protection
- work in partnership with children, young people, parents/carers and other agencies

The Designated Person for Child Protection is responsible for:

- monitoring and recording concerns
- making referrals to the Access Centre without delay
- dealing with allegations against staff, and volunteers
- liaising with other agencies

Our Designated Child Protection Person is Kim Dunn

~~Policies written April 2017 — 1<sup>st</sup> review April 2018 — 2<sup>nd</sup> review 2019 — 3<sup>rd</sup> review April 2020 — 4<sup>th</sup> review Jan 2021 — all carried out.~~

~~Review April 2022 — Review April 2023 — review date April 2024 —~~ **Next Review April 25**