



YourSpace Child Protection Policy

The staff and volunteers of **YourSpace** are fully understanding and committed to the safeguarding and well being of all children attending the club, recognising the importance of taking reasonable steps to ensure the protection from abuse of all children and young people. Safe practice is undertaken to promote the well being of children in line with the children's act of 1989 and 2004. The main factors being:

1. Anyone under the age of 19 is considered to be a child/young person.
2. The welfare of the child/young person is of the utmost importance.
3. All children/ young people have the right to be protected from abuse; regardless of gender, race, disability, culture, religious belief, language or sexual identity have equal rights to be protected from abuse.
4. All allegations and suspicions of abuse are to be dealt with immediately and any staff or volunteers are aware of procedures to follow.
5. All Staff and volunteers have the responsibility to report such concerns to the child protection officer.

These guidelines will be adhered to by all staff, volunteers and visitors and the importance of reporting concerns of signs of abuse are paramount.

ABUSE CAN BE DEFINED AS ANYTHING WHICH AFFECTS A CHILD OR YOUNG PERSON FROM BEING ABLE TO ACHIEVE A FULFILLING LIFE, BE IT THROUGH POVERTY, NEGLECT, SEXUAL ABUSE, EMOTIONAL, VERBAL/PHYSICAL HARM, EXPLOITATION, RELIGIOUS BELIEF, SEXUAL ORIENTATION.

All staff whether paid or voluntary will undergo checks to ensure their suitability to work within such groups.

YourSpace endeavours to enable staff to progress in their understanding of child welfare issues and the need to report such concerns.

YourSpace also understands the importance for communication between all parties involved within a child/young person's protection (e.g. social workers, GP's, police) and the need for relationships to be positive between all interested groups.

Completed by Rachel Hancocks 04/07/2011
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