



SAFEGUARDING POLICY

Sennen Surf Club is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all volunteers to share this commitment.

1.0 Introduction

This policy has been developed in accordance with the principles established by the following:

- The Children Acts 1989 and 2004;
- The Education Act 2002
- Working Together to Safeguard Children 2018
- “What to do if You are Worried a Child is Being Abused” 2015

We recognise that all volunteers and committee members have a full and active part to play in protecting our students from harm, and that the child’s welfare is our paramount concern.

The aims of this policy are to:

- Protect children / young people
- Provide surf club volunteers with clear guidance on our approach to safeguarding.

2.0 Safe Organisation, Safe Volunteers

We will ensure that we have a designated Safeguarding Officer who has undertaken the Safeguarding Children Training.

All regular volunteers will have an Enhanced DBS check.

All volunteers are provided with the Sennen Surf Club code of conduct and directed to this safeguarding policy so that they know who to discuss a concern with and are aware of how to respond to a young person who discloses abuse.

3.0 Responsibilities

The Safeguarding Officer is responsible for:

- 3.1. Referring a child if there are concerns about possible abuse, to CYPS and acting as a focal point for volunteers to discuss concerns.
- 3.2. Keeping records of concerns about a child even if there is no need to make an immediate referral. Ensuring that all such records are kept confidentially and securely
- 3.3. Liaising with other agencies and professionals where necessary
- 3.4. Reporting on any changes to policy and procedures which are required for the club

4.0 Supporting Children

Our organisation will support all children by:

- 4.1 Encouraging self-esteem and self-assertiveness, whilst not condoning aggression or bullying.
- 4.2 Promoting a caring, safe and positive environment within the organisation.
- 4.3 Liaising with other agencies involved in the safeguarding of children where necessary.

5.0 Confidentiality

We recognise that all matters relating to safeguarding are confidential:

- 5.1 The Safeguarding Officer will disclose any information about a student to other volunteers on a need to know basis only.
- 5.2 All volunteers must be aware that they have a professional responsibility to share information with other agencies in order to safeguard children.
- 5.3 All volunteers must be aware that they cannot promise a child to keep secrets which might compromise the child's safety or wellbeing.

6.0 Allegations against volunteers

All volunteers should take care not to place themselves in a vulnerable position with a child. We understand that a student may make an allegation against a member of staff. Work with individual children will always be conducted in view of other adults.

If an allegation is made, or information is received which suggests that a person may be unsuitable to work with children, the volunteer receiving the allegation or aware of the information, will immediately inform the Safeguarding Officer or other relevant Management Committee member.

7.0 Whistle-blowing

All volunteers should be aware of their duty to raise concerns, where they exist, about the management of child protection, which may include the attitude or actions of colleagues. If it becomes necessary to consult outside the organisation, they should speak in the first instance, to the Local Authority Designated Officer (LADO) following the Whistleblowing Policy.

8.0 Physical Intervention

Volunteers must only ever use physical intervention as a last resort, when a child is endangering him/herself or others, and that at all times it must be the minimal force necessary to prevent injury. Such events should be recorded and signed by a witness.

9.0 Bullying, Racism & Peer on Peer Abuse

Bullying & Racism

Our club takes bullying & racist incidents very seriously. Children should be helped to understand what constitutes bullying and understand what actions will be taken if such incidents were to occur. All forms of bullying are emotionally harmful to children.

As a club we have a zero tolerance to bullying & racism. All incidents must be reported and clearly recorded.

Peer on Peer Abuse

Children can abuse other children. All volunteers should be aware that safeguarding issues can manifest themselves via peer on peer abuse. The reasons for this are complex and are often multi-faceted.

We aim to reduce this behaviour and any related incidents with an expectation to eliminate this conduct.

10.0 Prevention

We recognise that the club community plays a significant part in the prevention of harm to our students by providing students with good lines of communication with trusted adults, supportive friends and an ethos of protection.

The community will therefore establish and maintain an ethos where children feel secure and are encouraged to talk and are always listened to and ensure that all children know there is an adult in the club whom they can approach if they are worried or in difficulty.

11.0 Health & Safety

Our club NOPS & EAPs, set out in separate documents, reflects the consideration we give to the protection of the children during club activities.