



Safeguarding Children & Young People Policy Statement - March 2024

The purpose and scope of this policy statement is:

- to ensure that all young people, whatever their age, culture, disability, gender, language, racial origin, religious belief, sexual identity and/or social status, have the right to safeguarding protection
- to protect children and young people who receive our services from harm, abuse and neglect
- to provide staff and volunteers, as well as children and young people in our care and their families / carers with the overarching principles that guide our approach to child protection

This policy applies to and is the responsibility of anyone working on behalf of SYF, including senior managers, the board of trustees, paid staff, contracted professional crew, volunteers, sessional workers, agency staff and students.

About us:

Seas Your Future (www.seasyourfuture.org) is the owner of the Tall Ship Pelican of London. Our objectives are to support the development of young people, building their resilience, self-confidence, and independence through activities including sail training, ocean science and maritime careers. We provide real life experiences and an alternative form of learning for all young people, encouraging equality, inclusiveness and passion through adventure and challenge. Our programme promotes personal growth, opportunities for diverse career options and environmental conservation.

Legal framework

This policy has been developed in line with current legislation, policy and guidance that seeks to protect children in England, Scotland and Ireland specifically The Children Act, 1989 and 2004, Working Together to make Children Safe, 2018, and The Safeguarding Vulnerable Groups Act 2006. A summary of the key legislation and guidance is available from [Child protection system in the UK | NSPCC Learning](#)

Supporting documents

This policy statement should be read alongside SYF's policies, procedures, guidance and other related documents which include:

- role description for the designated safeguarding officer
- risk assessment procedures
- dealing with disclosures and concerns about a child or young person
- managing allegations against staff
- recording concerns and information sharing
- child protection records retention and storage
- codes of conduct for staff and trustees
- behaviour codes for children and young people
- photography and sharing images guidance
- online safety
- safe recruitment and vetting of staff, trustees and volunteers
- induction, training, supervision and support of staff
- Staff Handbook
- Health & Safety Policy
- Wellbeing Policy
- Risk Management Policy
- Modern Slavery Policy
- Equality Diversity and Inclusion Policy
- Anti Bullying and Harassment Policy
- Lone Worker Policy
- Whistleblowing Policy
- Complaints Policy
- Information Sharing Policy

We believe that:

- children and young people should never experience abuse of any kind
- we are responsible for promoting the welfare of all children and young people, keeping them safe and practicing in a way that protects them
- 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

We recognise that:

- the welfare of children is paramount in everything we do and the decisions we take
- working in partnership with children, young people, their parents, carers and other agencies is essential in promoting young people's welfare
- some children are additionally vulnerable because of the impact of previous experiences, their level of dependency, communication needs or other issues
- extra safeguards may be needed to keep children who are additionally vulnerable safe from abuse

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 and designated, lead trustees 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
- providing effective management for staff and volunteers through supervision, support, training and quality assurance measures so that all staff and volunteers know about and follow our policies, procedures and behaviour codes confidently and competently
- recruiting and selecting staff and volunteers safely, ensuring all necessary checks are made
- recording and storing and using information professionally and securely, in line with data protection legislation and guidance [more information about this is available from the Information Commissioner's Office: ico.org.uk/for_organisations]
- sharing information about our safeguarding practice on our websites so that organisations who charter our services and the children and young people or vulnerable adults who travel with us and their families are aware of our safeguarding practice
- making sure that children, young people and their families and vulnerable adults 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, contracted professional crew and volunteers appropriately
- creating and maintaining an anti-bullying environment and maintaining a policy and procedures to help us deal effectively with any bullying or harassment 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, contracted professional crew and volunteers, by applying health and safety measures in accordance with the law and regulatory guidance
- building a safeguarding culture where staff, contracted professional crew and volunteers, children, young people and their families, treat each other with respect and are comfortable about sharing concerns

Contact details

Safeguarding Officer:

Simon Thorrington

simon@seasyourfuture.org

+44 7395 360922

Safeguarding Trustee:

Jane Nicklen

jane@seasyourfuture.org