



Child Protection Policy

Responsibility & Points of Contact

The person with overall responsibility for Child Protection within the 18th Edmonton Scout Group is the Group Scout Leader (GSL), Speranta Knowles, at gsl@18thEdmonton.net. The GSL is the first point of contact for any concerns relating to child protection. If your concern involves the GSL, you should contact the Enfield District Commissioner, Paul Symons, at dc@enfieldscouts.org.

Background

Chapter 2 of The Scout Association's Policy, Organisation and Rules (POR) is entitled "Key Policies". Within this Chapter of the POR, Rule 2.4 details the Scout Association's Child Protection Policy and the responsibilities within this Policy. Some of the content of Rule 2.4 applies to Districts rather than to Groups and therefore is not applicable for Groups.

With regard to Child Protection, the 18th Edmonton Scout Group follows all of Rule 2.4 that is applicable for Groups.

This Policy should be read in conjunction with the 'Young People First' Code of Practice (yellow card), which is issued to all adult leaders and helpers by The Scout Association. A link to the yellow card is available on the Group website www.18thEdmonton.net – select "Leaders/Exec" and then "Policies/Risk Assessments" to access this link.

Policy

All items of policy detailed below are taken directly from the POR.

The Scout Association acknowledges the duty of care to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and young people and is committed to ensuring safeguarding practice reflects statutory responsibilities, government guidance and complies with best practice and The Charity Commission requirements.

This policy:

- a) applies to all adults including the Board of Trustees, volunteers, paid staff, agency staff and anyone working on behalf of The Scout Association;
- b) recognises that the welfare and interests of children and young people are paramount in all circumstances; and

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c) aims to ensure that all children and young people have a positive and enjoyable experience of Scouting in a safe and child centered environment and are protected from abuse whilst participating in Scouting and otherwise.

The Scout Association acknowledges that some children and young people, including those disabled and those from ethnic minority communities, can be particularly vulnerable to abuse and accepts the responsibility to take reasonable and appropriate steps to ensure their welfare.

The Scout Association will:

1. promote and prioritise the safety and wellbeing of children and young people;
2. ensure that everyone is clear about their roles and responsibilities in respect of safeguarding and is provided with appropriate mandatory learning opportunities to recognise, identify and respond to signs of abuse, neglect and other safeguarding concerns relating to children and young people;
3. provide all children and young people on joining the organisation with information for themselves and their parents or carers covering The Scout Association's safeguarding arrangements;
4. widely promote The Scout Association's safeguarding policies and procedures;
5. ensure that trustees, staff and volunteers take seriously all concerns and allegations of abuse and respond appropriately;
6. securely maintain and store confidential, detailed and accurate records of all safeguarding concerns;
7. prevent the use of unsuitable individuals through the robust use of Disclosure and Barring arrangements as they apply in each nation within the UK, and the application of best practice in the safe recruitment of staff and volunteers working with children and young people;
8. ensure that robust safeguarding arrangements and procedures are in operation; and
9. address without delay any failure to comply with this policy.

Monitoring

This policy will be reviewed annually and revisions recommended to the Board of Trustees. This policy may also be reviewed in the following circumstances:

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- changes in legislation or government guidance (including Working Together as revised within each nation, relevant legislative changes and nation specific child protection and safeguarding policies and procedures);
- in the light of learning identified by a Local Safeguarding Children Board;
- as required by the Charity Commission; and
- as a result of any other significant change or event.

Version of Chapter 2 of POR in Place at Last Review of this Policy

The version of Chapter 2 of the POR in place at the time of the last review of this Policy is the version dated March 2017.

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