

Child protection policy

The Making of Mashamshire 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, sessional staff and anyone working on behalf of The Making of Mashamshire;
- b) recognises that the welfare and interests of children and young people are paramount in all circumstances; and
- c) aims to ensure that all children and young people have a positive and enjoyable experience of The Making of Mashamshire activities in a safe and child centred environment and are protected from abuse whilst participating in activities and otherwise.

The Making of Mashamshire 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 Making of Mashamshire 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. have available information for children and young people and their parents or carers covering The Making of Mashamshire's safeguarding arrangements;
4. ensure that trustees, staff and volunteers take seriously all concerns and allegations of abuse and respond appropriately;
5. securely maintain and store confidential, detailed and accurate records of all safeguarding concerns;
6. prevent the use of unsuitable individuals through the robust use of Disclosure and Barring arrangements in conjunction with NYCC Disclosure and Barring Service, and the application of best practice in the safe recruitment of staff and volunteers working with children and young people;
7. ensure that robust safeguarding arrangements and procedures are in operation; and
8. 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:

- changes in legislation or government guidance (including Working Together, relevant legislative changes and 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.