

New Forest Christian Camp



Safeguarding Policy

This policy applies to all volunteers on camp.

The purpose of this policy is:

- To protect children and young people who attend New Forest Christian Camp;
- To provide all volunteers with the overarching principles that guide our approach to safeguarding.

NFCC believes that a child or young person should never experience abuse of any kind. We have a responsibility to promote the welfare of all children and young people and to keep them safe. We are committed to practice in a way that protects them.

We recognise that:

- The welfare of the young person is paramount, as enshrined in the Children Act 1989;
- All children, regardless of age, disability, gender, racial heritage, religious belief, sexual orientation or identity, have a right to equal protection from all types of harm or abuse;
- Some children are additionally vulnerable because of the impact of previous experiences, their level of dependency, communication needs or other issues;
- The ongoing changes, that have occurred since March 2020 due to the Coronavirus pandemic, will have effected many children's mental wellbeing and made them more vulnerable.
- Working in partnership with children, young people, their parents, carers and other agencies is essential in promoting young people's welfare.

Safeguarding policy:

- We will ensure all volunteers on camp are alert to the basic signs of abuse (physical, emotional, sexual or neglect). They will know to refer concerns or suspicions to and also be aware of the procedure to follow if a child discloses information to them regarding a situation in their life;
- We will ensure all volunteers are made aware of procedures regarding confidentiality and for sharing and receiving information, including the need for clear recording of any conversations, complete with dates and actions to be taken;
- We will make the designated safeguarding officers known to all volunteers on arrival;
- We will ensure that all volunteers have access to the safeguarding procedure, essential contact numbers, and procedures for sharing and receiving information;
- We will ensure that all volunteers are following good practice at all times and do not display inappropriate behaviour which could be deemed as a safeguarding issue. All volunteers will be aware of any signs of inappropriate behaviour by other leaders and should continue to follow procedure.
- We will respond without delay to every complaint made which suggests that an adult, child or young person may have been harmed, co-operating with the police and local authority in any investigation.
- In all these principles we will follow legislation, guidance and recognized good practice.

We are committed to reviewing our policy and good practice annually.

This policy was last reviewed on: 26/05/2021