

Safeguarding	
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Reviewed:	June 2023
Date of next Review:	2026
To be read in conjunction with Health & Safety Codes of Practice CoP-21 Safeguarding Children & Young People CoP-22 Safeguarding Adults at Risk	



Introduction

Cumbria Wildlife Trust employs and engages with people from a wide range of backgrounds and circumstances. This policy defines the approaches we adopt in our work with Children and Vulnerable Adults to safeguard them from harm resulting from accident or abuse.

It also seeks to protect our organisation, our staff and volunteers from wrongful accusations of misconduct. This policy will be implemented through a framework of recommended best practice, set out in the Health & Safety Codes of Practice No. 21 Safeguarding Children & Young People and No. 22 Safeguarding Adults at Risk.

SAFEGUARDING POLICY

Cumbria Wildlife Trust is committed to taking all reasonable steps to ensure the health, safety and welfare of everyone involved in its activities, regardless of their age, ability, gender, religion, sexual orientation, health, socio-economic, ethnic or cultural backgrounds.

As part of this commitment, Cumbria Wildlife Trust recognises that children and some defined groups of adults are particularly vulnerable to accident or abuse, and that within these sectors, there are individuals who are additionally at risk through other factors, such as belonging to a minority group.

1. Definition

In this context children are defined as any individuals aged under eighteen years of age. The term 'young people' is also commonly used to refer to the 13 – 17 year age group.

An 'Adult at risk' (from The Care Act 2014 & also referred to as a vulnerable adult) is defined as any individual aged 18 and over who:

- has needs for care and support (whether or not the local authority is meeting any of those needs) and:
- is experiencing, or at risk of, abuse or neglect; and
- as a result of those care and support needs is unable to protect themselves from either the risk of, or the experience of abuse or neglect.

2. Aims:

2.1 Underpin the standards of our work with children, young people and vulnerable adults

2.2 Keep children, young people and vulnerable adults safe from abuse, or any kind of harm or distress as a result of their contact with us, and any abuse, harm or distress which may be disclosed to us during their contact with us

2.3 Protect individual staff and volunteers from wrongful accusations of misconduct

- 2.4 Protect Cumbria Wildlife Trust's reputation as a whole by ensuring and demonstrating our moral and procedural integrity in this area
- 2.5 Ensure that children, young people and vulnerable adults continue to be included within the Trust's programmes which meet the needs and aspirations of all audiences

3. Procedures

The policy of safeguarding children, young people and vulnerable adults will be achieved through:

- 3.1 Keeping codes of practice and procedural guidelines for this area appropriate, up to date and accessible
- 3.2 Having clear processes for reporting and addressing any concerns or allegations relating to safeguarding children, young people and vulnerable adults from abuse
- 3.3 Adhering to consistent and appropriate recruitment processes for staff and volunteers working with children, young people and vulnerable adults, including the use of Disclosure and Barring Services (DBS) checks
- 3.4 Ensuring that all staff and volunteers are properly informed, supported, managed and trained
- 3.5 Ensuring that our events and activities are appropriate to their audience, well planned, responsibly supervised and within the law

4. Implementation

The Policy is supported by:

- 4.1 Health and Safety Codes of Practice.
 - CoP-21** for staff and volunteers working with Children and Young people
 - CoP-22** for staff and volunteers working with Adults at Risk
- 4.2 A Handbook for Wildlife Watch Club leaders and by using an Independent Person Procedure for Wildlife Watch, which recommends using the UK charity Childline.
- 4.3 The Trust will have a member of staff serving as its designated Safeguarding Officer and a Trustee lead for safeguarding with responsibility for an overview of safeguarding-related policy and codes of practice.