

## **Surf Life Saving Association of Wales –Safeguarding Policy Statement**

SLSA Wales acknowledge the duty of care to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and is committed to ensuring safeguarding practice reflects statutory responsibilities, government guidance and complies with best practice requirements.

The policy recognises that the welfare and interests of children and young people are paramount in all circumstances. It aims to ensure that regardless of age, disability or ability, gender reassignment, race, religion or belief, sex or sexual orientation, socio- economic background, all children:

- ✓ Have a positive and enjoyable experience of sport at Surf Life Association of Wales in a safe and child centred environment
- ✓ Are protected from abuse whilst participating in the Sport of Surf Life Saving or outside of the activity.

We acknowledge that some children, including disabled children or those from ethnic minority communities, can be particularly vulnerable to abuse and we accept the responsibility to take reasonable and appropriate steps to ensure their welfare.

### **Our Policy**

As part of our safeguarding policy, we will:

- ✓ promote and prioritise the safety and wellbeing of children and young people
- ✓ value, listen to and respect children
- ✓ ensure robust safeguarding arrangements and procedures are in operation
- ✓ adopt safeguarding best practice through our policies, procedures and code of conduct for staff and volunteers
- ✓ ensure everyone understands the standards their role and responsibilities in respect of safeguarding and is provided with appropriate learning opportunities to recognise, identify and respond to signs of abuse, neglect and other safeguarding concerns relating to children and young people
- ✓ provide effective management for staff and volunteers through supervision, support, training and quality assurance measures so that all staff and volunteers know about our policies, procedures and behaviour codes and follow them confidently and competently
- ✓ ensure that appropriate action is taken in the event of all incidents or concerns, both lower level and concerns of abuse and support provided to the individual(s) who raise or disclose the concern
- ✓ ensure the confidential, detailed and accurate recording of all safeguarding concerns are maintained and securely stored
- ✓ record and store information securely, in line with data protection legislation and guidance.
- ✓ Prevent the employment or deployment of unsuitable individuals by recruiting and selecting staff and volunteers safely, ensuring all necessary checks are made
- ✓ Appoint a nominated safeguarding lead for children and young people, a deputy lead and a lead trustee / board member for safeguarding.
- ✓ Develop and implement an effective online safety policy and related resources
- ✓ Share information about safeguarding and good practice with children and their parents
- ✓ Make sure that children, young people and their parents know where to go for help if they have a concern

The policy and procedures will be widely promoted and are mandatory for everyone involved in Surf Life

Saving Association of Wales. Failure to comply with the policy and procedures will be addressed without delay and may unfortunately result in dismissal or exclusion from the organisation

### **Monitoring**

This policy will be reviewed one year after development and then every 3 years. The date of next review for this policy will be 2027 or in the following circumstances

- ✓ changes in legislation / government advice
- ✓ as required by the local safeguarding partnership, UK Sport and /or home counties sports councils
- ✓ as a result of any other significant change or event

