

		Policy Document		SECTION: PD 2.5 ISSUE: SIX APPROVED BY: JTR/ MH/IHT DATE CREATED: 10/05/2013 REVIEW DATE: 31/01/2020	
		ALL SITES			
Title: Safeguarding Policy					
Operating Document	OD 2.26	Risk Assessment	N/A	Quality Record(s)	N/A
1) Documents Relating to Policy (ACOP / Industry Guidance)				Hyper link	
Children Act 1989 Children Act 2004 Care (Vulnerable Adults) Act 2014 United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child HM Government Working Together to Safeguard Children 2015				UK Legislation Child Protection UK Legislation Vulnerable Adults	
2) Amendment Details			Date		
Added to new template			29/08/2013		
Appendix contact details updated			20/04/2016		
Full Policy Review and update to contacts and Safeguarding officer details. Some content removed and added to a new supporting operating document. Renamed to "Safeguarding policy"			01/10/2017		
Click here to enter text.			Click here to enter a date.		
3) Scope and Objective					
<p>Policy Statement</p> <p>Freedom Leisure has a duty of care for safeguarding all children, young people and vulnerable adults from harm and exploitation and to promote their welfare irrespective of age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex or sexual orientation. Freedom Leisure will ensure the protection of all children, young people and vulnerable adults through adherence to the Child Protection and Protecting Vulnerable Adults guidelines adopted by Freedom Leisure.</p> <p>This policy statement will be brought to the attention of all Freedom Leisure employees and volunteers and will be reviewed when appropriate.</p> <p>Scope & Objective</p> <p>Freedom Leisure, as with all organisations, is required to take reasonable measures for the protection of children and young people when they are involved in any activity organised by or taking place in a Freedom Leisure operated building. This policy outlines the steps that must be taken when staff or volunteers (who work on behalf of Freedom Leisure or any club or organisation using the facilities) come into regular contact with children and young people in order to minimise any potential risk.</p> <p>All those who come into contact with children and young adults as part of their employment, including those who do not have a specific role in relation to safeguarding, have a duty to promote the welfare of children and in particular protect from significant harm. They should also know how to respond to child protection concerns and make a referral to local authority children's or adults social care or the police if necessary.</p>					

This policy relates to all staff employed by Freedom Leisure or volunteers engaged by them or any coaches or staff working with children for clubs and schools using any Freedom Leisure facility, Where this policy relates to all clubs, schools, contractors and other external organisations they will also be required to provide a copy of their individual child protection policies as part of the booking process.

In respect of this policy a child is a person under aged 18, including an unborn baby.

A vulnerable adult or “adult at risk” is or may be in need of community care services by reason of disability, age or illness; and is or may be unable to take care of unable to protect him or herself against significant harm or exploitation”. This definition of an Adult covers all people over 18 years of age. Whether or not a person is vulnerable will depend upon surrounding circumstances and environment and each case must be judged on its own merits.

4) Training Details

Safeguarding is everyone’s Responsibility

Children and Young People

A Government initiative called **Working Together to Safeguard Children 2015** is an approach to the well-being of children and young adults from birth to age 19. This document recognises that Local Authorities have overarching responsibility for safeguarding the welfare of **all** children in their care. Under Section 10 of the **Children Act 2004** it is recognised that all agencies and organisations working with children are required to co-operate with local authorities to promote the well-being of children when carrying out their functions.

Safeguarding under this guidance is defined as:

- Protecting children from maltreatment
- Preventing impairment of children’s health and development
- Ensuring that children grow up in circumstances consistent with the provision of safe and effective care: and
- Taking action to enable all children to have the best outcomes

Freedom Leisure has an obligation on behalf of our local authority partners to comply with these guidelines and specific local Safeguarding policies and procedures.

Emergency Contact numbers are provided as Appendix A

Adults

The Government’s policy objective continues to be to prevent and reduce the risk of significant harm to adults from abuse or other types of exploitation, whilst supporting individuals in maintaining control over their lives and in making informed choices without coercion. The Government believes that safeguarding is everybody’s business, with communities playing a part in preventing, identifying and reporting neglect and abuse. Measures need to be in place locally to protect those least able to protect themselves. The State’s role in safeguarding is to provide the vision and direction and ensure that the legal framework, including powers and duties, is clear, and proportionate, whilst maximising local flexibility.

Guidelines

Professionals and others should be able to take appropriate and timely safeguarding action locally while not prescribing how local agencies and partnerships undertake their safeguarding duties

These Guidelines include:

- Senior Management commitment to the importance of safeguarding and promoting well-being
- A clear statement of responsibility towards children
- Guidance available to all staff
- Clear lines of accountability for work on safeguarding and promoting well-being
- Using the views of children to help shape services
- Safe recruitment procedures for those coming into contact with children and young people
- Appropriate training for staff
- Effective working relationships with other agencies, to safeguard and promote well-being and to share information effectively.

4.1. Policy Standards

General

This policy sets out the principles and guidelines staff should follow to minimise the potential of a child being harmed either by accident or by child abuse (this includes physical, sexual, emotional abuse or neglect), or exposing themselves to allegations of causing such harm. Abuse of vulnerable adults is mistreatment by any other person or persons that violates a person’s human and civil rights. The abuse can vary, from treating someone with disrespect in a way that significantly affects the person’s quality of life, to causing actual physical or mental suffering.

Freedom Leisure offers a range of activities for children and young people and provides Operating Documents and Risk Assessments for all of these, but these must be regularly reviewed in the light of this policy.

This policy provides a set of principles, each accompanied by guidelines. It is not intended that children will be over-protected and a balance is required between providing children with the chance to grow and develop and taking appropriate measures to minimise risk. Some principles may be difficult to apply directly or require adaptation depending on circumstances. All risk assessments will include the consideration of safeguarding issues.

Authorised by:	Ivan Horsfall-Turner
Signature:	