



Young Climate Warriors Safeguarding Policy

The purpose and scope of this policy statement

Young Climate Warriors provides a platform for schools and families to engage with children about climate change, to empower them to become agents of change within their homes, and to provide an opportunity to harness the power of collective action to respond to climate change and cut carbon emissions.

We set weekly challenges for children to complete at home and encourage them to HIT THE RED BUTTON on the website when they complete a challenge. We provide schools with a range of resources designed to introduce the challenges and support learning about climate change. We also offer school visits, including giving assemblies as part of the YCW Ambassador programme. We are also able to help children and staff deliver assemblies and help lead classroom or eco-council Climate Change discussions.

The purpose of this policy statement is:

- to protect children and young people who receive Young Climate Warriors' services from harm; and
- to provide staff and volunteers, as well as children and young people and their families, with the overarching principles that guide our approach to child protection.

This policy applies to anyone working on behalf of Young Climate Warriors, including senior managers and the board of trustees, paid staff and volunteers.

Legal framework

This policy has been drawn up on the basis of legislation, policy and guidance that seeks to protect children in England. A summary of the key legislation is available from [nspcc.org.uk/learning](https://www.nspcc.org.uk/learning).

Supporting documents

This policy statement should be read alongside our organisational policies, procedures, guidance and other related documents, including:

- Code of conduct for staff and volunteers
- Photography, filming and sharing of images policy
- Online safety policy
- Procedures for responding to concerns about a child or young person's wellbeing.

We believe that:

- children and young people should never experience abuse of any kind; and
- we have a responsibility to promote the welfare of all children and young people, to keep them safe and to operate in a way that protects them.

We recognise that:

- the welfare of children is paramount in all the work we do and in all the decisions we take;
- all children, regardless of age, disability, gender reassignment, race, religion or belief, sex, or sexual orientation have an equal right to 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; and
- working in partnership with children, young people, their parents, carers and other agencies is essential in promoting young people's welfare.

We will seek to keep children and young people safe by:

- valuing, listening to and respecting them;
- appointing a nominated safeguarding lead for children and young people and a lead trustee for safeguarding;
- adopting child protection and safeguarding best practice through our policies, procedures and code of conduct for staff and volunteers;
- developing and implementing an effective online safety policy and related procedures;
- providing effective management for staff and volunteers through supervision, support, training and quality assurance measures so that all staff and volunteers know about and follow our policies, procedures and behaviour codes confidently and competently;
- recruiting and selecting staff and volunteers safely, ensuring all necessary checks are made;
- recording, storing and using information professionally and securely, in line with data protection legislation and guidance;
- sharing information about safeguarding and good practice with children and their families via our website, group work and one-to-one discussions;
- making sure that children, young people and their families know where to go for help if they have a concern;
- using our safeguarding and child protection procedures to share concerns and relevant information with agencies who need to know, and involving children, young people, parents, families and carers appropriately;
- using our procedures to manage any allegations against staff and volunteers appropriately;
- creating and maintaining an anti-bullying environment and ensuring that we deal effectively with any bullying that does arise;
- ensuring that we have effective complaints and whistleblowing measures in place;
- ensuring that we provide a safe physical environment for our children, young people, staff and volunteers, by applying health and safety measures in accordance with the law and regulatory guidance; and
- building a safeguarding culture where staff and volunteers, children, young people and their families, treat each other with respect and are comfortable about sharing concerns.

Contact details

Nominated lead for safeguarding

Name: katrina@youngclimatewarriors.org

Lead trustee for safeguarding

Name: Fleur Wells

NSPCC Helpline

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Dated: 5 FEB 2022

We are committed to reviewing our policy and good practice annually. This policy statement and accompanying procedures were last reviewed on 5 February 2022.