

Safeguarding Policy Statement



If you have concerns about the safety or wellbeing of a child this should be reported using the details below without hesitation.

Let's Swim Safeguarding Lead:	Hayley Dix info@lets-swim.co.uk
Swimming Teachers Association Designated Safeguarding Officer (DSO):	01992748642 childprotection@sta.co.uk

If you believe that a child has been harmed or may be at immediate risk of harm, and you are unable to contact your safeguarding lead or the Designated Safeguarding Officer please make immediate contact with an appropriate agency listed below:

- Take the name and contact details of the person you have spoken to, plus the incident / referral reference number (if applicable) so you have a record of the advice they give.
- Then report this to the Safeguarding Leader and/or the Child Protection team the next working day.

Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) London Borough of Barnet	020 8359 4066 mash@barnet.gov.uk https://www.barnet.gov.uk/children-and-families/keeping-children-safe
NSPCC child protection helpline (24/7 service):	0808 800 5000 help@nspcc.org.uk https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/reporting-abuse/report/report-abuse-online/
Police or Ambulance Service:	Call 999

The purpose of this policy

Let's Swim is committed to providing an environment in which all children, vulnerable adults, paid or voluntary staff and visitors have a safe and positive experience. This policy acknowledges that it is the responsibility of every adult to safeguard the wellbeing of all children and vulnerable adults. All adults attending our services, whether paid or voluntary, have a role to play in promoting good practice to safeguard the welfare of children and vulnerable adults.

The purpose of this policy statement is to:

- apply reasonable practical steps to protect from harm, discrimination or degrading treatment, all children and vulnerable adults who attend the services of Let's Swim. This includes the children of adults who use our services.
- provide staff, volunteers, children, young people and their families with overarching principles that guide our approach to child protection.

This policy applies to anyone working on behalf of Let's Swim including but not limited to senior managers, 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 and guidance is available from www.nspcc.org.uk/childprotection.

This document was compiled with support from resources provided by the NSPCC, Swimming Teachers Association and Swim England.

Supporting documents

This policy statement should be read alongside our governing body Safeguarding Policies and Procedures manual 'Wave Power - Swim England Child Safeguarding Policies and Procedures'. This contains details regarding best practice in the swimming industry for:

- Abuse, duty of care and reporting process
- Training and recruitment
- Codes of conduct
- Policies, Procedures and Guidance

We believe that:

- children, young people and vulnerable adults should never experience abuse of any kind
- we have a responsibility to promote the welfare of all children, young people and vulnerable adults, to keep them safe and practice 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
- working in partnership with children, young people, their parents, carers and other agencies is essential in promoting young people's welfare
- 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
- extra safeguards may be needed to keep children who are additionally vulnerable safe from abuse.

We seek to keep children, young people and vulnerable adults safe by:

- valuing, listening to and respecting them
- appointing a nominated child protection lead
- adopting child protection and safeguarding best practice through the policies procedures and code of conduct outlined in the manual 'Wave Power - Swim England Child Safeguarding Policies and 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 by 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 our families via our website and other medium where appropriate
- 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 procedures outlined in 'Wave Power' to manage any allegations against staff and volunteers appropriately
- creating and maintaining an anti-bullying environment and ensuring that we follow policy and procedures outlined in 'Wave Power' to help us deal effectively with any bullying that does arise
- ensuring that we effectively handle all complaints and whistleblowing

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- ensuring that we provide a safe physical environment for our children, young people, vulnerable adults, staff and volunteers, by applying health and safety measures in accordance with the law and regulatory guidance
- 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.

*We are committed to reviewing our policy and good practice annually.
This policy is due for review in September 2023.*