

Safeguarding Policy

The Clydeside Project



Last updated	07/08/2020
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The Clydeside Project is committed to maintaining a strong safeguarding standard. This policy applies to anyone working on behalf of The Clydeside Project, including but not limited to The Committee and Mentors.

The purpose of this policy is:

- to protect children and young people who take part in the Clydeside Project mentoring programme.
- to provide parents/guardians, teachers and mentors with the principles that guide our approach to child protection.

We believe that:

- children and young people should never experience abuse of any kind.
- we have a responsibility to promote the welfare of all children and young people, to keep them safe and to practise 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.

- 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 child protection lead for children and young people, external to The Committee who is reimbursed at the UK National Living Wage for all time spent acting in the role.
- adopting child protection and safeguarding best practice through our policies, procedures and code of conduct for mentors and committee members.
- providing effective management for mentors and committee members through supervision, support, training and quality assurance measures so that all mentors and committee members know about and follow our policies, procedures and behaviour codes confidently and competently.
- recruiting and selecting mentors and committee members safely; requiring all Mentors and The Committee to join Disclosure Scotland's Protecting Vulnerable Groups (PVG) scheme, and where appropriate requiring any English/Welsh/Northern Irish mentors to undergo enhanced Disclosure and Barring (DBS) checks.
- recording, storing and using information professionally and securely, in line with data protection legislation and guidance.
- using an online tutoring platform that records all communication and can be accessed in real time by committee members, parents/guardians and verified teachers.
- sharing information about safeguarding and good practice with children, parents/guardians and teachers.
- making sure that children, young people and their families know where to go for help.
- 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.
- ensuring that we have effective complaints and whistleblowing measures in place.
- 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.