



Child Protection Policy

LACROSSE SCOTLAND is fully committed to safeguarding the welfare of all children in its care. It recognises the responsibility to promote safe practice and to protect children from harm, abuse and exploitation. For the purposes of this policy and associated procedures a child is recognised as someone under the age of 18 years.

Staff and volunteers will work together to embrace differences and diversity and respect the rights of children and young people.

This document outlines Lacrosse Scotland's commitment to protecting children.

These guidelines are based on the following principles:

- The welfare of children is the primary concern.
- All children, whatever their age, culture, disability, gender, language, racial origin, socio-economic status, religious belief and /or sexual identity have the right to protection from all forms of harm and abuse.
- Recruit, train, support and supervise its staff, members and volunteers to adopt best practice to safeguard and protect children from abuse and to reduce risk to themselves.
- Require staff, members and volunteers to adopt and abide by this Child Protection Policy and these procedures.
- Respond to any allegations of misconduct or abuse of children in line with this Policy and these procedures as well as implementing, where appropriate, the relevant disciplinary and appeals procedures.
- Observe guidelines issued by local Child Protection Committees for the protection of children.
- Regularly monitor and evaluate the implementation of this Policy and these procedures.

Review

This Policy and these Procedures will be regularly reviewed:

- In accordance with changes in legislation and guidance on the protection of children or following any changes within Lacrosse Scotland.
- Following any issues or concerns raised about the protection of children within Lacrosse Scotland.
- In all other circumstances, at least every three years.

If you have an immediate and serious concern about the safety of a child, contact the police on either 101 or 999, and/or social work services. Contact details of your local social work team can be found on the relevant local authority website