# **Safeguarding policy statement**

## **Our statement**

Our organisation acknowledges its duty of care to safeguard children and young people which means preventing a protecting children from abuse or neglect, and educating those around them to recognise the signs and dangers. As such, we fully adopt the [Safeguarding Policy](https://bowlswales.com/wp-content/uploads/2023/10/BowlsWales-Children-and-Young-People-Safeguarding-Policy-1-1.pdf) of BowlsWales and are committed to ensuring safeguarding practice reflects statutory responsibilities, government guidance, and complies with best practice.

The policy recognises that the welfare and interests of children are paramount in all circumstances. It aims to ensure that regardless of age, ability or disability, gender reassignment, race, religion or belief, sex or sexual orientation, socio-economic background, all children:

* have a positive and enjoyable experience at [club name] in a safe and child-centred environment
* are protected from abuse whilst participating in bowls or outside of the activity.

## **Our policy**

### **What we’ll do**

 As part of our safeguarding policy we will:

* ensure that everyone associated with our organisation knows how to report a concern
* promote and prioritise the safety and wellbeing of children and young people
* value and respect children by listening to the voice of the child by taking their views seriously and with due consideration.
* ensure robust safeguarding arrangements and procedures are in operation
* adopt safeguarding best practice through our policies, procedures and codes of conduct for staff and volunteers
* ensure everyone understands their roles and responsibilities in respect of safeguarding and is provided with appropriate learning opportunities to recognise, identify and respond to signs of abuse, neglect and other safeguarding concerns relating to children and young people
* provide effective management for staff and volunteers through supervision, support, training and quality assurance measures so that all staff and volunteers know about our policies, procedures and behaviour codes and follow them confidently and competently
* ensure appropriate action is taken in the event of all incidents or concerns, from lower-level concerns and poor practice to more serious allegations of abuse
* provide support to all individuals involved in a concern or allegation
* ensure that confidential, detailed and accurate records of all safeguarding concerns are maintained and securely stored in line with the Data Protection Act 2018 and GDPR.
* prevent the recruitment of unsuitable individuals by adhering to safer recruitment guidance
* appoint a Designated Safeguarding Person for the organisation, and a lead committee member for safeguarding
* share information about safeguarding and good practice with children and their parents/carers via appropriate means of communication
* make sure that children, young people and their parents/carers know where to go for help if they have a concern

The policy and procedures will be widely promoted and are mandatory for everyone involved in **[club name].** Failure to comply with the policy and procedures will be addressed without delay and may ultimately result in dismissal or exclusion from the organisation.

## **Monitoring**

This policy will be reviewed every three years, or in the following circumstances:

* changes in legislation and/or government guidance
* as required by Bowls Wales
* as a result of any other significant change or event.

This policy was last reviewed on ………………………………. [Date]

Signed ……………………………………………………………

**[Role – most senior person responsible for organisation]**

# Contact details

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Club Welfare Officer** | **Insert name** | **Insert telephone number** | **Insert email** |
| **Committee Member responsible for Safeguarding** | **Insert name** | **Insert telephone number** | **Insert email** |
| **Local Safeguarding Board Details**  | **Insert name** | **Insert telephone number** | **Insert email** |

In a safeguarding emergency,
where a child is at immediate risk of harm, call 999.

**Sources of Information and Support**

[**NSPCC**](https://www.nspcc.org.uk/)

A leading children’s charity in the UK specialising in child protection.

Tel: 0808 800 5000

Email: help@NSPCC.org.uk

[**The Child Protection in Sport Unit (CPSU)**](https://thecpsu.org.uk/)

The CPSU is part of the NSPCC and was founded in 2001 to help improve safeguarding and child protection practices within sports organisations.

Tel: 0116 366 5580

Email: cpsu@nspcc.org.uk

[**Children in Wales**](https://www.childreninwales.org.uk/)

The national umbrella body for organisations and individuals who work with children and young people in Wales. Children in Wales work closely with Welsh Government to ensure children’s rights are at the forefront of policy development and decision making.

Tel: 029 20 342434

Email: info@childreninwales.org.uk

[**Wales Safeguarding Procedures**](https://www.safeguarding.wales/en/)

The Wales Safeguarding Procedures detail the essential roles and responsibilities for practitioners to ensure that they safeguard children and adults who are at risk of abuse and neglect.

[**Young Minds**](https://www.youngminds.org.uk/)

Young Minds provides children and young people with the tools to look after their mental health and seeks to empower adults to be the best support they can be to the children and young people in their lives.