

Registered Charity Number 1105104.

Safeguarding Policy

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Version 1.1

Title Safeguarding Policy

Approved by FAB Exec Committee

Date Issued 19th March 2024

Review Date 19th March 2026

Safeguarding Policy

The FAB Club is committed to ensuring that each child's welfare is paramount. We follow the principles of UK government legislation - 'Working Together to Safeguard Children,' (2023) and guidance from the local area protection committee (https://www.proceduresonline.com/swcpp/).

Safeguarding children is defined in Working together to safeguard children as:

- protecting children from maltreatment.
- preventing impairment of children's health or development.
- ensuring that children are growing up in circumstances consistent with the provision of safe and effective care.
- taking action to enable all children to have the best outcomes.

It is not expected that volunteers will act as safeguarding officers or that they will be trained to intervene in cases of safeguarding concern. Volunteers should always act on any suspected or potential safeguarding concerns (*What to do if you are concerned a child is being abused, 2015*). Saying or doing nothing is not an option. If a volunteer has any concerns and is not sure what to do, they should speak, in confidence, with another volunteer.

FAB club volunteers should be alert and sensitive to disclosure and record an account of the disclosure as soon as possible using the child's actual words, reassuring the child and reporting this immediately to the executive committee.



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Any suspicions should be reported directly to a member of the executive committee. If deemed necessary they will then contact the local Social services Duty safeguarding team for the child's area, Police Protection Unit and they will make the decision on further action if required or give the appropriate telephone number to contact. If the concern relates to a volunteer, that person will be suspended immediately pending an investigation and outcome communicated to appropriate authorities.

This policy applies to all volunteers working for FAB Club and the Executive Committee will support anyone who in good faith reports his or her safeguarding concerns about a child even if those concerns prove to be unfounded.

FAB Club will not allow:

- Abusive peer activities, e.g. Initiation ceremonies, ridiculing or bullying.
- Engagement in or making suggestive remarks or gestures.
- Favouritism to be shown to any individual.
- Transportation of children alone in a vehicle of any FAB volunteer
- Exaggeration or trivialisation of allegations of safeguarding concerns.
- Safeguarding concerns to go unreported, including any allegations made against volunteers.

FAB Club will expect volunteers to uphold the responsibility for ensuring 3 people in any situation. This may be 1 adult, 2 children or 2 adults, 1 child. Volunteers must be aware that other individuals may misinterpret their actions no matter how well intended, which is why these ratios must be maintained.

FAB Club will provide annual updates on safeguarding. Volunteers must attend Safeguarding training annually as a minimum. Volunteers will not be allowed to attend activities where FAB Club is acting in loco parentis until they have attended an annual update or equivalent training (such as accredited online course) and have evidence to prove this.

All FAB Club Executive Committee Members and volunteers must have a current enhanced DBS Check. These will be renewed every three years, in accordance with government guidelines and any new statutory government requirement. Volunteers will not be allowed to



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attend any activity unless they have a current enhanced DBS check. If at any time a volunteer receives a caution or conviction, the volunteer must inform a member of the Executive Committee and appropriate action will be taken.

It is the responsibility of FAB Club Executive Committee to make sure that all volunteers understand the importance of this policy. The Executive Committee must ensure any person acting on behalf of FAB at events which involve children should understand and comply with the policy as well.

Saying or doing nothing is not an option in the safeguarding of children and vulnerable adults.

- Working Together to Safeguard Children' 2023: <u>Working together to safeguard children 2023:</u> <u>statutory guidance (publishing.service.gov.uk)</u>
- What to do if you're worried a child is being abused 2015: https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/what-to-do-if-youre-worried-a-child-is-being-abused--2
- Prevent Duty 2015: https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/prevent-duty-guidance-file:///C:/Documents%20and%20Settings/HPnx6325/My%20Documents/Downloads/prevent-duty-departmental-advice-v6.pdf
- Guidance for safer working practice for those working with children and young people in education settings 2015: http://www.saferrecruitmentconsortium.org/



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