



Child protection and safeguarding policy statement

OWEN Open Water Education Network works with children and families as part of its activities. These include: Working with Social groups, Schools, out of school provisions and public events to raise money.

To act as a resource for children, young people and adults by providing education and support and promoting water safety.

The purpose of this policy statement is:

- to protect children and young people who receive OWEN Open Water Education Network's services. This includes the children of adults who use our services
- to provide parents, staff and volunteers with the overarching principles that guide our approach to child protection.

This policy statement applies to anyone working on behalf of OWEN Open Water Education Network including senior managers and the board of trustees, paid staff, volunteers, sessional workers, agency staff and students.

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 [nspcc.org.uk/child protection](https://nspcc.org.uk/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 the child is paramount

- All children, regardless of age, disability, gender reassignment, race, religion or belief, sex, or sexual orientation have a right to equal 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/safeguarding lead, a deputy child protection/safeguarding lead and a lead trustee/board member for safeguarding
- Developing child protection and safeguarding policies and procedures which reflect best practice
- Using our safeguarding procedures to share concerns and relevant information with agencies who need to know, and involving children, young people, parents, families and carers appropriately
- Creating and maintaining an anti-bullying environment and ensuring that we have a policy and procedure to help us deal effectively with any bullying that does arise
- Developing and implementing an effective online safety policy and related procedures
- Sharing information about child protection and safeguarding best practice with children, their families, staff and volunteers via leaflets, posters, group work and one-to-one discussions
- Recruiting staff and volunteers safely, ensuring all necessary checks are made
- Providing effective management for staff and volunteers through supervision, support, training and quality assurance measures
- Implementing a code of conduct for staff, children and volunteers
- Using our procedures to manage any allegations against staff and volunteers appropriately
- Ensuring that we have effective complaints and whistleblowing measures in place
- Ensuring that we provide a safe physical environment for our children, young people, staff and volunteers, by applying health and safety measures in accordance with the law and regulatory guidance
- Recording and storing information professionally and securely.

Related policies and procedures

This policy statement should be read alongside our organisational policies and procedures, including:

- Procedures for responding to concerns about a child or young person's wellbeing
- Dealing with allegations of abuse against a child or young person
- Role of the designated safeguarding officer
- Managing allegations against staff and volunteers
- Safer recruitment policy and procedures
- Adult to child supervision ratios
- Code of conduct for staff and volunteers
- Anti-bullying policy and procedures
- Online safety policy and procedures for responding to concerns about online abuse
- Photography and image sharing guidance
- Child protection records retention and storage policy
- Whistleblowing policy

Health and Wellbeing Strategy

We feel that our staff's wellbeing is of vital importance. Wellbeing is an important factor in the job satisfaction and as such is a management issue. Our strategy will bring staff wellbeing to the forefront, whilst seeking to create a culture where negative wellbeing issues are identified, minimised and managed before they affect the wellbeing of staff. We have a clear aim to promote the positive health and wellbeing of our staff. The issue of staff health and wellbeing at work is recognised as part of our broader approach to health promotion that involves us all.

We aim to:

- Promote good practice in both health and wellbeing activities and share success
- Provide relevant training for all managers
- Ensure all necessary resources are provided.
- Identify those circumstances that may contribute to inappropriate levels of work-related stress.
- Consult with relevant trade union safety representatives and other stakeholders.
- Provide confidential counselling for staff as necessary
- Promote an emphasis and wellbeing
- Provide central support, resources and advisory services
- Produce and disseminate guidance notes
- Offer practical step by step procedures and guidance
- Provide training to staff
- Monitor the effectiveness of this policy through annual reporting.

Contact details

We are committed to reviewing our policy and good practice annually.

This policy was created on:(date)

This policy review date is:(date)

Print name:

Signed: Date:

[this should be signed by the most senior person with responsibility for safeguarding in your organisation, for example the safeguarding lead on your board of trustees].

Nominated child protection and safeguarding officer:

Kate Thurman

07368639173

Kate_thurman@sky.com

Deputy child protection/safeguarding lead:

Hannah Townsend

07851652228

Hannah.rebecca01@gmail.com

Lead trustee/committee member for safeguarding:

Michelle Jessamine

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07727293469

NSPCC Helpline 0808 800 5000

We are committed to reviewing our policy and good practice annually.

This policy was last reviewed on:(date)

Signed: [this should be signed by the most senior person with responsibility for safeguarding in your organisation, for example the safeguarding lead on your board of trustees]. Date: