



CHILD PROTECTION POLICY SESSION 2018 - 2019

Code of good practice

This code should be followed by all coaches and volunteer helpers.

You should:

- Play your part in helping to develop an ethos where all people matter and are treated equally, and with respect and dignity.
- Always put the care, welfare and safety needs of a child first.
- Respect a child's right to be involved in making choices and decisions which directly affect them.
- Respect a child's right to privacy and personal space.
- Respond sensitively to children who seem anxious about participating in certain activities and be aware of the vulnerability of some groups of children to being isolated and hurt (for example, children with disabilities or learning difficulties)
- Speak to the Club's Child protection co-ordinator immediately if you suspect that a child is experiencing bullying, harassment or if they could be at risk of harm or abuse.
- Ensure that when working with children, you are at least within sight and hearing of other adults. One to one contact with children should be avoided if at all possible and should never be allowed to occur on a regular basis.
- Plan the canoeing opportunities so as to minimise situations where abuse may occur.
- Never dismiss what a child tells you as 'lies' or exaggeration.
- Only restrain a child who is at imminent risk of inflicting harm to themselves or others or is at risk of damaging property.
- Ascertain the child's and the parent/carer's views about manual support for children who require this kind of help, particularly if they are on the water.
- Get another adult to accompany you if it is necessary for you to have to do things of a personal nature for a young person or vulnerable adult. Get their consent if at all possible and certainly get consent from the parent or carer. Let the child/vulnerable adult know what you are doing and why.
- Never underestimate the contribution that you can make to the development of safe communities for children.

You should not:

- Exaggerate or trivialise another Club members' concerns about a child or ignore an allegation or suspicion of abuse in the hope that it will either 'go away' or that 'someone else will deal with it'.
- Discuss personal issues about a child or their family with other people except with the Child Protection co-ordinator when you have concerns about the child's wellbeing,
- Be drawn into derogatory remarks or gestures in front of children or young persons.
- Allow a child, young person or adult to be bullied or harmed by anyone in the club.
- Allow children to swear or use sexualised language unchallenged.

You should never:

- Engage or allow others to engage in sexually provocative games, including horseplay or to allow the touching of a child in a sexually provocative manner.
- Make sexually suggestive comments to a child, even in fun.
- Engage in rough or physical contact unless it is permitted within the rules of a game or sports activity or conforms to the guidance on appropriate physical restraint.
- Form inappropriate emotional or physical relationships with children.
- Harass or intimidate a child or Club member because of their age, 'race', gender, sexual orientation, religious belief, socio-economic class or disability.
- Never invite or allow children to stay with you at your home.



CHILD/VULNERABLE PERSON PROTECTION POLICY STATEMENT

SESSION 2018 - 2019

Carrick Canoe Club is fully committed to safeguarding the welfare of all vulnerable people whether children, young people or vulnerable adults. It recognises its responsibility to take all reasonable steps to promote safe practice and to protect them from harm, abuse and exploitation.

Club Officials and volunteers will endeavour to work together to encourage the development of an ethos which embraces difference and diversity and respects the rights of children, young people and adults.

Carrick Canoe Club will:

- Ensure that all members understand their legal and moral obligations to protect children, young people and vulnerable adults from harm, abuse and exploitation;
- Ensure that all members understand their responsibility to work to the standards and procedures detailed in the organisations Child Protection Procedures.
- Ensure that all members understand their obligations to report care or protection concerns about a child/vulnerable person, or a member's conduct towards a child/vulnerable person, to the organisation's designated person for child protection.
- Ensure that all procedures relating to the conduct of members are implemented in a consistent and equitable manner;
- Ensure that the designated person understands his/her responsibility to refer any child protection concerns to the statutory child protection agencies (i.e. Police and or Social Work)
- Provide opportunities for all members to develop their skills and knowledge particularly in relation to the care and protection of children and vulnerable people.
- Ensure that children and vulnerable people are enabled to express their ideas and views on a wide range of issues and will have access to the organisations Complaints procedure
- Ensure that parents/carers are encouraged to be involved in the work of the organisation and, when requested, have access to all guidelines and procedures;
- Endeavour to keep up to date with national developments relating to the care and protection of children and vulnerable people.