

## SAFEGUARDING POLICY

### The purpose and scope of this policy statement

Camp Jojo works with children and families as part of its activities. These include working with children with disabilities and complex needs and their siblings and families, providing outdoor activities during a camping weekend or day-time visits.

The purpose of this policy statement is:

- To protect children and young people who receive Camp Jojo's services. This includes the children of adults who use our services.
- To provide parents, contractors and volunteers with the overarching principles that guide our approach to child protection and safeguarding.

This policy statement applies to anyone working on behalf of Camp Jojo, including the Board of Trustees, paid team members, paid activity providers and volunteers.

### Legal framework

This policy has been drawn up based on legislation, policy and guidance that seeks to protect children in England. A summary of the key legislation and guidance is available from the NSPCC website. (See e.g., the statutory guidance "Working Together to Safeguard Children 2023" [GOV.UK Assets+2NSPCC Learning+2](#) and "Keeping Children Safe in Education 2025" [NSPCC Learning+1](#).)

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 behave 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.
- In line with current guidance, we recognise that safeguarding includes protection from harm outside the home (including online harm) and ensuring early help where needs are identified. [GOV.UK Assets+1](#)

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.
- Sharing information about child protection and safeguarding best practice with children, their families, staff and volunteers via group work and one-to-one discussions.
- Recruiting volunteers and contractors safely, ensuring all necessary checks are made. All our volunteers, paid contractors and Trustees have the necessary DBS (Disclosure and Barring Service) checks and safeguarding training before being allowed to volunteer with or work for us.
- Ensuring staff, volunteers and trustees receive regular safeguarding training that reflects emerging risks (including online safety, criminal exploitation, radicalisation, child sexual exploitation). [NSPCC Learning+1](#)
- Providing effective management for contractors and volunteers through supervision, support, training, and quality assurance measures.
- Implementing a code of conduct for all team members.
- Using our procedures to manage any allegations against contractors or volunteers appropriately.
- Ensuring that we have effective complaints and whistle-blowing measures in place.
- Ensuring that we provide a safe physical environment for our families and contractors and volunteers, by applying health and safety measures in accordance with the law and regulatory guidance.
- Recording and storing information professionally and securely, and ensuring information-sharing arrangements comply with current guidance and data protection (e.g., GDPR) [GOV.UK Assets](#).
- Ensuring child protection concerns are acted upon without delay and in line with statutory guidance – recognising when to undertake early help, when to refer to children’s social care and when to escalate. [GOV.UK Assets+1](#)

### **Related policies and procedures**

This policy statement should be read alongside our organisation’s policies and procedures, including:

- Southend, Essex, Thurrock (SET) Safeguarding and Child Protection procedures.
- Role of the designated safeguarding officer, including procedures for responding to concerns about a child or young person’s wellbeing and dealing with allegations of abuse against a child or young person.
- Code of Conduct for Trustees, and Volunteers.
- Anti-harassment and Bullying Policy.
- Whistle-blowing Policy.
- Photography and Image-Sharing Guidance.
- Online Safety Policy (to cover digital, remote interactions, social media, apps, and safeguarding online).

- Risk Assessment Policy (including specific risk assessments for camping/outdoor activities, children with complex needs, siblings, and family participation).

**Contact details of Senior Lead for Safeguarding and Child Protection**

Name: Paul Hocker

Phone/email: paul@campjojo.org.uk / 07961933613

**Deputy Child Protection Lead**

Name: Karen Langley

Phone/email: karen@campjojo.org.uk

**Local Authority Child Protection Contacts:**

If there is an immediate risk of harm to a child, contact the Police.

If the child is at risk of significant harm, call the Children and Families Hub on 0345 603 7627 and ask for the 'Priority Line'.

Out of hours: (Mon-Thurs 5.30pm-9am; Fri & Bank Holidays 4.30pm-9am) 0345 606 1212

Email: Emergency.DutyTeamOutOfHours@essex.gov.uk

The Children and Families Hub also offer a consultation line for professionals, accessible by calling 0345 603 7627 and asking for the 'Consultation Line'.

If there is a concern that a child or young person is being harmed or neglected or is at risk of this, you should go to the Essex Effective Support website ([essexeffectivesupport.org.uk](http://essexeffectivesupport.org.uk)) where guidance and the Request for Support Form are available.

NSPCC Helpline: 0808 800 5000

**Review date**

This document was last reviewed and approved by the full Board of Trustees at the meeting on 6/11/2025.

Next review due : **November 2026.**

Signed.....*C. Knight*.....(Chair).....*E. Spence*.....(Secretary)