

Safeguarding Children Policy For Lightvessel 18

1. Introduction

- i. Lightvessel LV18 is a not-for-profit organisation run by:
The Pharos Trust, Registered UK Charity No. 1090325
- ii. Lightvessel LV18 is based at:
The Ha'penny Pier, The Quay, Harwich, Essex, CO12 3HH
- iii. Lightvessel LV18 is managed by a board of trustees (the Board). One of the trustees has particular responsibility for safeguarding children.
- iv. The Board has adopted this safeguarding children policy and expects every adult volunteering at Lightvessel LV18 to support it and comply with it. Consequently this policy shall apply to all staff, trustees, directors, volunteers or anyone working on behalf of Lightvessel LV18

2. Purpose of the Policy

- i. This policy intended to protect children and young people who receive any service from us. Including those who are the children of adults who may receive services from us.
- ii. As an organisation we believe that no child or young person should experience abuse or harm and are committed to the protection of children and young people and this policy is intended to provide guidance and overarching principles to those who represent us as volunteers or staff, to guide our approach to child protection and safeguarding.

3. The Risks to Children

Nearly every child grows up in a safe and happy environment and it's important not to exaggerate or overestimate the dangers. Nevertheless, there are situations where children need protection including:

- Sexual Abuse
- Grooming
- Physical and Emotional Abuse and Neglect
- Domestic Violence
- Inappropriate Supervision by Staff or Volunteers
- Bullying, Cyber Bullying, Acts of Violence and Aggression
- Victimisation
- Self Harm
- Unsafe Environments and Activities
- Crime
- Exploitation

4. Safeguarding Children at Events/Activities

- i. There are 2 kinds of events/activities
 - Those open to adults and children of all ages
 - Those for children accompanied by a 'parent'

- ii. At events and activities and events open to all ages, children under 16 must be accompanied by an adult over the age of 18 who not only brings the child but also takes the child home afterwards. Young people aged 16 or 17 may attend unaccompanied if they bring written consent and mobile telephone number of a 'parent'.
- iii. At events and activities for children accompanied by a 'parent', children under 16 must be supervised throughout the event by an adult over the age of 18 who not only brings the child but also takes the child home afterwards. If alone adult brings more than one child, then the children will have to stay together, so that the one adult can supervise them. Young people aged 16 or 17 may attend unaccompanied if they bring written consent and mobile telephone number of a 'parent'.
- iv. Both events and activities are to be defined broadly to include any occasions where Lightvessel LV18 will be providing a service.

5. Disclosure and Barring

- i. Lightvessel LV18 offers the following activities for children:
 - Guided supervised school, scout, guide etc. parties for educational and leisure purposes
- ii. Some of our activities may therefore require adult participants or adult leaders to undergo DBS and/or Police Checks under the Safeguarding Vulnerable Groups Act (2006). The required level of checking (if any) will broadly reflect the degree and frequency of unsupervised access given to other people's children.
- iii. The Board will take very seriously any allegations of impropriety on the part of any member of Lightvessel LV18. Any member of Lightvessel LV18 who discovers anything amiss should get in touch with the following
Mr Anthony O'Neil
- iv. The Board will review the allegation and the likely risk to children and, if appropriate, will consider banning the member from future events or revoking or her membership or both, but only in full accordance with the rules and procedures of Lightvessel LV18.

6. Health and Safety Aspect of Safeguarding Children

- i. Before starting any event, the board will carry out a risk assessment and then take steps to minimise all risks to health and safety. Parents and children will be made aware of any particular risk and of the steps to be taken to minimise those risks.
- ii. Sufficient Adults must be present at any event to enable one adult to deal with any emergency while one adult supervises the children not directly affected by the emergency.

7. Policy on the Prevention of Bullying

We will not tolerate the bullying of children either by adults or other children. If any incident of child-on-child bullying should arise at a Lightvessel LV18 event, those involved will be separated and the parents of the children involved will be asked to deal with the matter. The Board will review all incidents of child on child bullying and assess the likely future risk to children. If appropriate, the board will consider banning a child from future events, but only in full accordance with the rules and procedure of Lightvessel LV18. Allegations of adults bullying children will be dealt with under paragraph 5iii above.

8. Photographing Children

No photos will be taken or published of any child attending an event or activity unless prior written permission is sought from a person with parental responsibility. If any person has any concerns regarding any person taking photos at any event or activity, that person should contact Lightvessel LV18 immediately.

9. Managing Behaviour, Discipline and Acceptable Restraint

- i. Adults supervising Children at Lightvessel LV18 events must never use any form of corporal punishment. If physical restraint is absolutely necessary to prevent injury to any person or to prevent serious damage to property, then the minimum necessary restraint may be used – but for that purpose only.
- ii. Unacceptable behaviour at Lightvessel LV18 events will generally be stopped by separating the children from each other and from the group. The miscreants will be suitably supervised and will be returned as soon as possible to the care of their parents.
- iii. Lightvessel LV18 may apply a further disciplinary sanction; namely the banning of the child from one or more future events. Any such sanction will be applied by the following officer:
Mr Anthony O'Neil
- iv. A parent who is aggrieved by this ban may appeal to Lightvessel LV18 who will hear the views of all relevant persons. The decisions of Lightvessel LV18 is then final.

10. Other Policies

This safeguarding policy should be read together with the following policies and resources:

Health and Safety
Volunteers Code of Conduct

11. Legal Framework

This policy has been drawn up in accordance with the following:

- Children Act 1989
- United Convention Of The Rights Of The Child 1991
- General Data Protection Regulation
- Human Rights Act 1998
- Sexual Offences Act 2003
- Children Act 2004
- Safeguarding Vulnerable Groups Act 2006
- Protection Of The Freedoms Act 2012
- Children And Families Act 2014
- Special educational needs and disability (SEND) code of practice – Guidance on the special educational needs and disability (SEND) system for children and young people aged 0 to 25 from 1 September 2014
- Information Sharing: Advice for practitioners providing safeguarding services
- Working together to safeguard children (2017)

NOTE: This policy was approved by the following officer on 01/01/2019 and is due for review every 2 years.

Mr Anthony O'Neil

H O'Neil
August 2019