

LITTLE MOOR ALLOTMENTS ASSOCIATION SAFEGUARDING POLICY.

In this policy the elected officers and/or appointed Trustees of the Charitable Incorporated Organisation known as 'Little Moor Allotments Association' who constitute the Committee are referred to as 'Trustees' and the ploholders who pay rent to lease a plot are referred to as 'members'.

The aims of Little Moor Allotments Association (the "Association") are to:

- (1) For the public benefit of the residents of Newcastle upon Tyne, without distinction of gender, sexual orientation, race or of political, religious or other opinions, the provision of allotment facilities in the interests of social welfare for recreational leisure time occupation with the objective of improving life;
- (2) The advancement of education, in particular but not limited to, relating to horticulture, management of allotments and the improvement and nurturing of the natural environment for the public benefit.
- (3) The management of the allotment site to promote the protection and diversity of wildlife

The purpose of this policy statement is:

- to protect children and young adults who access the Little Moor Allotment's site from harm. This includes the children of adults who use our services.
- to provide our members, as well as children and young adults and their families, with the overarching principles that guide our approach to safeguarding

This policy applies to anyone working with or on behalf of Little Moor Allotments Association.

It is important to note that the Little Moor Allotments are a secure site and that unaccompanied children and vulnerable adults are not allowed on the site. Nevertheless children and vulnerable adults may be on the site with their appropriate adults and it is everyone's responsibility to be aware of safeguarding issues should they arise.

Legal framework

This policy has been drawn up on the basis of legislation, policy and guidance that seeks to protect children and young adults and vulnerable adults in England

Resources

This policy statement should be read alongside our organisational policies, procedures, guidance and alongside the safeguarding advice provided by Newcastle City Council which can be found at <https://newcastle.gov.uk/services/care-and-support/children/keeping-children-safe/newcastle-safeguarding-children> and the resources at <https://newcastlesafeguardingchildren.org.uk/resource-library/> and covers the following areas. :

- role description for the designated safeguarding officer
- dealing with disclosures and concerns about a child or young person
- managing allegations against staff and volunteers
- recording concerns and information sharing
- child protection records retention and storage
- code of conduct for volunteers
- behaviour codes for children and young adults and vulnerable adults
- photography and sharing images guidance
- online safety
- whistleblowing
- induction, training, supervision and support

We believe that:

- Children and young adults 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 children and young adults is paramount in all the work we do and in all the decisions we take.
- Working in partnership with children and young adults, their parents, carers and other agencies is essential in promoting their welfare
- All children and young adults, regardless of age, disability, gender reassignment, race, religion or belief, sex, or sexual orientation have an equal right to protection from all types of harm or abuse
- Some children and young adults are additionally vulnerable because of the impact of previous experiences, their level of dependency, communication needs or other issues
- Extra safeguards may be needed to keep children and young adults who are additionally vulnerable safe from abuse.

We will seek to keep children and young adults and vulnerable adults safe by:

- Adopting child protection and safeguarding best practice through our policies, procedures and code of conduct for staff and volunteers.
- Providing effective management for volunteers through supervision, support, training and quality assurance measures so that all volunteers know about and follow our policies, procedures and behaviour codes confidently and competently.
- Recording and storing and using information professionally and securely, in line with data protection legislation and guidance
- Making sure that children and young adults, vulnerable adults and their families know where to go for help if they have a concern
- Using our safeguarding and child protection procedures to share concerns and relevant information with agencies who need to know, and involving children and young adults, parents, families and carers appropriately.
- Using our procedures to manage any allegations against staff and volunteers 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.
- Ensuring that we have effective complaints and whistleblowing measures in place
- Ensuring that we provide a safe physical environment for our children and young adults, staff and volunteers, by applying health and safety measures in accordance with the law and regulatory guidance
- Building a safeguarding culture where staff and volunteers, children and young adults, and their families, treat each other with respect and are comfortable about sharing concerns.

Contact details

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