



THE AIR LEAGUE TRUST AND AIR LEAGUE ENTERPRISES

CHILD PROTECTION POLICY & GUIDELINES

INTRODUCTION

This document outlines the Air League Organisations' policy to safeguard children* and young people* from all forms of abuse and to help build a safer environment for everyone involved with both the Air League Trust and Air League Enterprises.

All staff members and associated adults will have a part to play in the implementation of our child protection policy; this policy applies to all staff, including senior managers and the board of trustees, paid staff, members, volunteers, supporters or anyone working on behalf of The Air League. This policy supplements the policies established in the 'Child Protection Policy and Guidelines' set up in 2009 which remains a core document and has been subject to rolling reviews to incorporate new laws, regulations, guidelines and best practices.

The Policy and Guidelines of the Air League were drawn up in line with The Children Act of 2009 (England & Wales). In 2013, this act was widened to specifically take into account the safeguarding of children, and especially in relation to engagement by charitable organisations with children and young persons. The following two notes (supplied by gov.uk) adds further definition to what this means:-

1. The definition of Regulated Activity for adults defines the activities provided to any adult as those which, if any adult requires them, will mean that the adult will be considered vulnerable at that particular time. These activities are: the provision of healthcare, personal care, and/or social work; assistance with general household matters and/or in the conduct of the adult's own affairs; and/or an adult who is conveyed to, from, or between places, where they receive healthcare, relevant personal care or social work because of their age, illness or disability. Please see Department of Health factual note on Regulated activity (adults) available on their website.
2. The position of Trustee of a vulnerable groups' or children's charity is not a regulated activity in itself. It is only if Trustees have close contact with these vulnerable



beneficiaries that they would fall within the scope of regulated activity and be eligible to obtain an enhanced DBS check and barred list check. A Trustee of a charity who no longer falls within the definition of regulated activity would be eligible to obtain an enhanced DBS check (but without a barred list check).

THE PURPOSE OF THIS POLICY IS:

- to protect children and young people who join the organisation as a Youth Member.
- to provide staff, members and volunteers with the overarching principles that guide our approach to child protection.
- To protect children and young people who partake in specified activities and programmes organised by The Air League
- To protect children and young people who attend events and activities targeted to that age and demographic, eg volunteering at events, attending flying days with partner suppliers

The Air League believes that it is always unacceptable for a child or young person to experience abuse of any kind and recognises its responsibility to safeguard the welfare of all children and young people by a commitment to practice in a way that protects them.

THE AIR LEAGUE RECOGNISES THAT:

- the welfare of the child/young person is paramount;
- all children, regardless of age, disability, gender, racial heritage, religious belief, sexual orientation or identity, have the right to equal protection from all types of harm or abuse; when working with children, young people, their parents, carers and any other agencies we believe it is essential to promote young people's welfare.
- The Air League will constantly seek to use best practice to inform its actions in all instances insofar as can reasonably be exercised.

THE AIR LEAGUE WILL SEEK TO SAFEGUARD CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE BY:

- valuing them, listening to and respecting them;



- adopting child protection guidelines through procedures and a code of conduct for staff, Trustees, associates and volunteers;
- developing and implementing an effective e-safety policy and related procedures:
- recruiting staff and volunteers safely, ensuring all necessary checks are made;
- providing effective management for staff and volunteers through audit and risk assessment processes, along with supervision, support and training.
- sharing information about our child protection and best practice operations with children, parents, staff and volunteers where that is appropriate for the activity to take place;
- sharing concerns with agencies who need to know, and involving parents and children appropriately. This organisation strictly adheres to the guidance supplied by the Charity Commission & Gov.uk in reporting and recording incidents.
- The AL will carry out Risk Assessments for all events in which young persons partake and implement method statements where appropriate.
- The AL will assess its partner organisations and require proofs where required.
- The AL will ensure that best practice is in place; including the prevention of situations where a child or vulnerable person is not placed in any one-on-one situations without supervision or accompaniment by a DBS checked person.

We are also committed to reviewing our policy and endeavouring to ensure we engage with best practice; the policy will be reviewed in light of all regulatory and legislative changes, as well as being reviewed in line with the Organisations policies and any changes to operations. A minimum annual review will be undertaken.

Notes: *

Definition of Children and Young People

The UN Convention on the Rights of the Child defines a child as everyone under 18 unless, "under the law applicable to the child, majority is attained earlier" (Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, 1989). The UK has ratified this convention.

In the UK, following guidance a definition of Young Person is those persons who legally remain a child, but regarded as a young person who is anyone under 18 and. but who has not yet reached



the official minimum school leaving age. These definitions are recognised in such areas as criminal law, medicine & health, and employment, but not restricted to these areas. Specific legislation may apply.

The Air League seeks to implement best practice in all aspects of its activities and programmes where children/young people are involved, for example, where parents attend events or activities alongside their children, and wish to have a wider volunteering role, a full assessment will be carried out prior, and an appropriate structure put in place.

The persons responsible and/or overseeing the continuing and on-going assessment will be The Air League's Chief Executive Officer. They will exercise the right to engage or appoint a person/organisation to carry out this management function on the organisation's behalf.

<https://safeguardingtool.nspcc.org.uk/self-assessment-tool/>

Further reading on these addenda can be found at:-

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/safeguarding-children-and-young-people/safeguarding-children-and-young-people>

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/592101/Working_Together_to_Safeguard_Children_20170213.pdf

www.nspcc.org.uk/inform

www.learning.nspcc.org.uk/safeguarding-child-protection/safer-recruitment