



Safeguarding Policy

Adventure Training North East (ATNE) acknowledges the duty of care to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and vulnerable adults and is committed to ensuring safeguarding practice reflects statutory responsibilities, government guidance and complies with best practice requirements.

All ATNE staff update their safeguarding training annually.

The policy recognises that the welfare and interests of children and vulnerable adults are paramount in all circumstances. It aims to ensure that regardless of age, ability or disability, gender reassignment, race, religion or belief, sex or sexual orientation, socio-economic background, all children

- have a positive and enjoyable experience of outdoor activities at ATNE in a safe and child centred environment
- are protected from abuse whilst participating in any ATNE activity or outside of the activity.

ATNE acknowledges that some children can be particularly vulnerable to abuse and we accept the responsibility to take reasonable and appropriate steps to ensure their welfare.

As part of our safeguarding policy ATNE will

- promote and prioritise the safety and wellbeing of children and young people
- ensure everyone understands their roles and responsibilities in respect of safeguarding and is provided with appropriate learning opportunities to recognise, identify and respond to signs of abuse, neglect and other safeguarding concerns relating to children and young people
- ensure appropriate action is taken in the event of incidents/concerns of abuse and support provided to the individual/s who raise or disclose the concern
- ensure that confidential, detailed and accurate records of all safeguarding concerns are maintained and securely stored and reported to appropriate individuals at school, within social services or if a child is in immediate danger the Police
- prevent the employment/deployment of unsuitable individuals
- ensure robust safeguarding arrangements and procedures are in operation.

The policy and procedures will be widely promoted and are mandatory for everyone involved in **ATNE**. Failure to comply with the policy and procedures will be addressed without delay and may ultimately result in dismissal/exclusion from the organisation.

Staff will be made aware that children may be more likely to make a disclosure when they feel safe and calm in the Outdoors/Forest School setting. Staff are instructed not to promise to keep the information secret – but that they have a duty to report any signs of abuse or neglect.

Any volunteer, adult, member of staff who finds that a child is telling them something which concerns them should follow these steps:

Tell the Forest School leader (they will decide if step two is necessary)
Speak to Designated Safeguarding Lead : Caroline Chamberlain

What to do if a child makes a disclosure?

- Listen carefully
- Record the conversation in the child's words and note the time
- Sign and date the record you make
- Take it seriously
- Provide support
- Reassure they are right to tell
- Don't promise that you will keep it secret
- Explain what will happen next
- Speak to the Designated Safeguarding Lead
- The Designated Safeguarding Lead will decide the next step which may be one or more of the following:

Police 999 for emergencies

101 for non-emergencies

Local Safeguarding Children's Board (LSCB) in the local authority,

inform DSL at school

inform parents if appropriate

Monitoring

The policy will be reviewed annually, or in the following circumstances:

- changes in legislation and/or government guidance
- as required by the Local Safeguarding Children Board, UK Sport and/or Home Country Sports Councils and Mountain Training etc
- as a result of any other significant change or event.

(Last reviewed Nov 2020)