



Newquay Marine Group Safeguarding Policy **(Written 02.02.2023)**

Policy Principles

Abuse occurs in all areas of society, across class, race, gender, and culture. Where people are unable, unsure, or unskilled at speaking up or standing up for themselves, they become more vulnerable to abuse and exploitation. This makes children, the elderly, young adults, and people with learning disabilities the most vulnerable groups in society.

Newquay Wild Activities works with staff and volunteers of all ages and backgrounds and in particular, students. Newquay Wild Activities is committed to ensuring that our staff and volunteers do not experience abuse or exploitation.

Newquay Wild Activities will achieve this by taking the following action:

- We will train our staff and volunteers in this policy and ensure that the procedures are known and understood by them.
- staff and volunteers will not engage with children unless the parent(s) or legal guardians are present. staff and volunteers will not be in a situation where they are left alone with a child ever.
- We will maintain open and effective relationships with all other agencies that share responsibility for the safeguarding any vulnerable staff, volunteers, and guests.
- We will establish through our core values and working practices an environment that lessens the imbalance of power and raises awareness of the vulnerability of people. staff and volunteering practices will be sensitive to cultural, gender and individual needs.
- We will be able to sign post staff and volunteers to the correct agencies if necessary, so they have the information about the courses of action available to them.
- We will ensure that any allegations of abuse are listened to, and acted upon
- People that raise allegations will be informed of the action that we take, respecting our obligations to maintain confidentiality, and will be offered support through the process.
- We will monitor the implementation of this policy and its attendant procedures.

Legal Context

The following legislation and official guidance have relevance to safeguarding of vulnerable adults:

- Safeguarding Vulnerable Groups Act 2006
- The Mental Health Act 1983 and the Mental Capacity Act 2005
- The Human Rights Act 1998
- The Equality Act 2010

During usual volunteering activities working alongside other volunteers, if you have any concerns about the possible abuse of a person, you have a duty to tell someone. Don't worry if your concerns seem trivial, they must be shared. If someone we volunteer with has told you he/she is a victim of abuse, it is important that you let them know you must share it with someone even if they ask you not to mention it. You should ask them if there is anyone that they do want you to inform.



Agencies that can help

- MARU:03001231116 (Multi agency referral unit)
- Young People Cornwall: 01872 222447 www.youngpeoplecornwall.org
- Early Help Hub:01872322277 www.cornwall.gov.uk/earlyhelphub
- LSCB: www.proceduresonline.com/swcpp
- National Youth Agency: www.nya.org.uk
- UK Youth: www.ukyouth.org

Urgent Action required following allegations or suspicions of abuse:

Allegations or suspicions of abuse should be reported to the Directors Laura Guy-Wilkinson or Liz Clark without delay.

The time scales for reporting allegations or suspicions of abuse to the Local Authority Safeguarding Teams or the Police are as follows:

- Immediately if you think the vulnerable person is at risk of serious physical harm, or a serious criminal act has taken place, and evidence will need to be made safe.
- Within 24 hours if it relates to a specific incident which is, or may be still going on, or may happen again but there is no immediate risk of harm.
- Make a written record of any conversation.

Appendix 1

Defining Abuse

Abuse (in this context) is the violation of an individual's human and civil rights by any one person or persons.

There are categories of abuse:

- Physical Abuse Physical acts to a person (e.g., hitting, restraining, inappropriate manual handling, burning, inappropriate use of medication)
- Financial Theft, misuse of money or possessions, exploitation, pressure in connection with will, property or inheritance
- Neglect Acts of omission (e.g., neglect of personal hygiene, malnutrition, dehydration) Ignoring medical or physical care needs, failure to provide access to appropriate health and social care services, with holding of medication.
- Emotional Those things done - or not done - which cause mental anguish in the victim (e.g. bullying, verbal abuse, not allowing normal social contacts, intimidation, controlling, coercion, denial of basic rights, threats of harm or abandonment)
- Discriminatory Abuse
- Including racist, sexist or any abuse that is based on a person's disability, including harassment or similar treatment.
- Institutional Abuse
- Institutional Abuse occurs where the routines and regimes within care settings deny people rights, choices, and opportunities.