

Ely Outdoor Sports Association

Safeguarding Policy for Children and Vulnerable Adults

1 Statement of Intent

Ely Outdoor Sports Association (EOSA), its Directors, committee members and volunteers have a duty to safeguard children and other vulnerable users of its premises and those who may come into contact with vulnerable users.

They should respond to any concerns they may have regarding the physical, sexual, emotional or psychological safety of a child or vulnerable person or concerns relating to discriminatory or financial violation or exploitation of a vulnerable person.

This policy is in place to protect all children and vulnerable persons regardless of gender, ethnicity, disability, sexuality, religion or faith. This policy applies to all users of the facilities at EOSA.

A child is anyone under the age of 18 years old.

2 Principles

The welfare of the child or vulnerable adult is paramount and is the responsibility of everyone. All children and vulnerable adults, without exception, have the right to protection from abuse, whether physical, verbal, sexual, bullying, exclusion or neglect. Bullying, shouting, physical violence, sexism and racism towards children will not be permitted or tolerated.

The responsibility for ensuring the safety of children or vulnerable adults while using the facilities at EOSA rest with the individual or organisation hiring the facilities.

3 Policy Statement

No Director, volunteers or staff will have unsupervised access to children or vulnerable adults without the prior permission of their parents given to one of the Directors.

All suspicions or allegations of abuse against a child will be taken seriously and dealt with speedily and appropriately.

All Directors, staff and volunteers need to be aware of this policy, child protection, and vulnerable adult issues.

There will be a nominated and named Welfare representative to whom any suspicions or concerns should be reported. This person is Emma Gunbie.

The Directors will endeavour to keep the premises safe for use by children and vulnerable adults and they recognise that a higher standard of safety is required whereby use is made by small children, those who cannot read safety notices and physically disabled adults.

Any organisations or individuals hiring the facilities for the purposes of holding activities involving children or vulnerable adults are confirming by signing the terms and conditions of booking, that they have an appropriate safeguarding policy in place.

EOSA will ensure that hirers are made aware of their obligations under the Licensing Act 2003 to ensure that alcohol is not sold to those under the age of 18. EOSA will ensure that hirers are aware that no children may be admitted to films when they are below the age classification for the film or show.

This policy and procedures will be reviewed annually and updated as appropriate in the interim periods.

4 Procedures

All Directors, volunteers and staff will be given information about child protection awareness.

An annual review will take place following the AGM to allow for any required up-date of policies and or procedures. New Directors, volunteers and staff must be given an induction to this policy and understand their responsibilities.

A copy of the policy will be posted on the EOSA website, displayed for the attention of all in the Clubhouse, and made available on request to hirers.

Organisations hiring the facilities for activities for children will be asked to confirm that they have suitable Child Protection policies in place before the first booking commences. Individuals hiring facilities for activities for children will be made aware of this policy. Organisations hiring the facilities for activities specifically involving vulnerable adults will be asked to confirm that they have a suitable Vulnerable Adults Protection policy before the first booking commences. Other organisations hiring the facilities whose activities may involve vulnerable adults will be made aware of this policy.

The committee will require hirers to report any damage, breakages or safety issues needing attention to the booking administrator, who will inform the appropriate people. These will be dealt with as soon as practicable, in the light of the circumstances, with provision to prevent access by children and vulnerable adults pending repair where appropriate.

Contractors engaged to carry out work at the premises must not be allowed unsupervised access to children or vulnerable adults. All work should be undertaken when the facilities are not in use, but appropriate supervision will be arranged if it is necessary to carry out work when the facilities have been booked.

If the facilities might be used by more than one hirer, the attention of hirers will be drawn to the need to ensure that children and vulnerable adults are supervised when using toilets.

The supervision of all groups remains the responsibility of the people who hire the facilities and sign the terms and conditions of booking.

Policy adopted by the EOSA Directors - March 2018

Last reviewed and updated by the EOSA Committee 11th September 2024