



# Growing Futures Child Protection Policy



Version	1.1
Date Updated	1st June 2024
Date to be reviewed	1st June 2025
Owner	Daniel Stockton

Date	Amendments made	Updated by
1.12.24	Change to D Stockton email address	DSt



## **1. Introduction**

At Growing Futures, we are committed to providing a safe and supportive environment for all children who participate in our programs and activities. We recognise the importance of child protection and the need to safeguard children from harm. This Child Protection Policy outlines our commitment and procedures to ensure the safety and well-being of children involved with our organisation. This policy is informed by the latest Keeping Children Safe in Education (KCSIE) guidance.

## **2. Policy Statement**

We believe that every child has the right to be protected from all forms of harm, including but not limited to physical, emotional, and sexual abuse, neglect, and exploitation. We are dedicated to creating an environment where children feel safe, respected, and empowered to voice their concerns.

## **3. Key Principles**

Our Child Protection Policy is guided by the following principles:

- a. The welfare and safety of the child are paramount in all our activities and decisions.
- b. All children have the right to be treated with dignity, respect, and fairness.
- c. All staff, volunteers, and participants must be aware of and adhere to this policy.



d. We are committed to providing safeguarding training and raising awareness among our staff.

e. Any concerns or allegations regarding child protection will be taken seriously, addressed promptly, and reported to the appropriate authorities as required by law.

## **4. Implementation**

### **4.1 Staff and Volunteers**

a. All staff who work with or on behalf of Growing Futures will be subject to an enhanced DBS check prior to work taking place.

c. Supervision ratios will be maintained to ensure adequate supervision of children during activities.

d. Staff will adhere to a Code of Conduct that includes guidelines for appropriate behaviour and interactions with children.

### **4.2 Reporting and Responding**

a. Any suspicion or disclosure of child abuse or neglect will be taken seriously and reported immediately to the designated Child Protection Officer, Daniel Stockton.

b. The designated Child Protection Officer will follow established reporting procedures, which may include contacting the local authority, MARU, involved professionals and the police.

c. See appendix 1 for the Safeguarding concern reporting template.

d. The privacy and confidentiality of individuals involved in any child protection concern will be respected to the extent allowed by law.

### **4.3 Preventing Harm**



- a. We will take proactive measures to prevent harm to children, including conducting risk assessments of planned activities, obtaining as much information about the child(ren) before commencing work (this could include educational places where a child is on role or statutory caseworkers in situations where a child is not registered at a school) and implementing safety measures in our programs and activities.
- b. Children will be encouraged to voice their concerns and will have access to a trusted adult to whom they can report any worries or discomfort.
- c. We recognise the additional barriers that can exist when identifying abuse and neglect among children and young people with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND). Key information and known safeguarding concerns will be shared appropriately prior to work commencing.

## **5. Review and Monitoring**

This Child Protection Policy will be reviewed regularly to ensure its effectiveness and compliance with relevant laws and regulations. Any necessary updates or improvements will be made to strengthen our commitment to child protection.

## **6. Conclusion**

We are dedicated to creating a safe and nurturing environment for all children involved in Growing Futures. We will work diligently to prevent child abuse, respond to concerns, and promote the well-being of children in our care.

**Signed:** Daniel Stockton, Founder of Growing Futures



**Date:** 1st June 2024

Appendix 1.

Safeguard concern log

Date:  Time of incident:	Childs initials:	Others involved:	Reported by:
Type of SG concern:	Detail of the concern (keep it factual):		
Checked by SG lead (Full name):	Action Taken (attach any further documents/follow up actions to this log):		Date:

## Appendix 2

### Key contacts:

#### **Daniel Stockton**

- Child Protection Officer for Growing Futures
- Phone: 07488268935
- dan@growingfuturescornwall.com

#### **Local Authority Safeguarding Team - Cornwall Council:**

- Cornwall Multi-Agency Referral Unit (MARU):
- Phone: 0300 123 1116 (24-hour helpline)
- Email: [maru@cornwall.gov.uk](mailto:maru@cornwall.gov.uk)
- Website: [Cornwall MARU](#)

#### **Local Police:**

- In case of immediate danger or a crime involving a child, contact your local police station or dial 999 (emergency) or 101 (non-emergency).

#### **NSPCC (National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children):**

- Helpline for advice and support on child protection concerns: 0808 800 5000
- Website: [NSPCC](#)

#### **Childline:**

- Childline is a confidential helpline for children and young people in the UK who may need support or someone to talk to.
- Phone: 0800 1111
- Website: [Childline](#)