CHILD PROTECTION POLICY GUIDELINES



WARSI SEWA SADAN

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Child Protection Policy

- The welfare of the child is paramount.
- All children, whatever their age, culture, disability, gender, language, racial origin, religious beliefs and/or sexual identity, have the right to protection from abuse.
- All suspicions and allegations of abuse will be taken seriously and responded to swiftly and appropriately.
- All staff (paid/unpaid) working in Warsi Sewa Sadan (WSS) have a responsibility to report concerns to the appropriate officer.

Child Protection Policy Statement

Warsi Sewa Sadan has a duty of care to safeguard all children involved in activities within the organization and protect them from harm. All children have a right to protection, and the needs of disabled children and others who may be particularly vulnerable must be taken into account.

Warsi Sewa Sadan will ensure the safety and protection of all children through adherence to the Child Protection guidelines adopted by **Warsi Sewa Sadan**.

A child is defined as a person under the age of 18 (The Children Act 1989).

Policy aims

The aim of the Child Protection Policy is to promote good practice:

- Providing children and young people with appropriate safety and protection whilst in the care of Warsi Sewa Sadan.
- Allow all staff/volunteers to make informed and confident responses to specific child protection issues.

Promoting good practice

Child abuse, particularly sexual abuse, can arouse strong emotions in those facing such a situation. It is important to understand these feelings and not allow them to interfere with your judgment about the appropriate action to take.

Abuse can occur within many situations including the home, school and the sporting environment. Some individuals will actively seek employment or voluntary work with young people in order to harm them. A coach, instructor, teacher, official or volunteer will have regular contact with young people and be an important link in identifying cases where they need protection. All suspicious cases of poor practice should be reported following the guidelines in this document.

Good practice guidelines

All personnel should be encouraged to demonstrate exemplary behavior in order to protect themselves from false allegations. The following are common sense examples of how to create a positive culture and climate.

Good practice means:

- Always working in an open environment avoiding private or unobserved situations and encouraging open communication.
- Treating all young people/disabled adults equally with respect and dignity.
- Always putting the welfare of each young person first.
- Maintaining a safe and appropriate distance with children (e.g. it is not appropriate for staff or volunteers to have an intimate relationship with a child or to share a room with them).
- Building balanced relationships based on mutual trust and empowering children to share in decision making.
- Ensuring that if any form of manual/physical support is required, it should be provided openly.
- Keeping up to date with technical skills, qualifications and insurance.
- Involving parents/carers wherever possible.
- Ensuring that if mixed teams are taken away for the day or night, they should always be accompanied by a male and female member of staff. However, remember that same gender abuse can also occur.
- Ensuring that at tournaments or residential events, adults should not enter children's rooms or invite children into their rooms.
- Being an excellent role model this includes not smoking or drinking alcohol in the company of young people.
- Giving enthusiastic and constructive feedback rather than negative criticism.
- Recognizing the developmental needs and capacity of young people and disabled adults – avoiding excessive training or competition and not pushing them against their will.
- Securing parental consent in writing to act in loco parentis, if the need arises to administer emergency first aid and/or other medical treatment.
- Keeping a written record of any injury that occurs, along with the details of any treatment given.
- Requesting written parental consent if WSS officials are required to transport young people in their cars.