



SEP 2024

SAFEGUARDING POLICY

Run Kids Run believes that everyone should be able to participate in, and enjoy, physical activity in a safe environment, and be safeguarded from harm through a duty of care.

Run Kids Run acknowledges that children and some adults can be particularly vulnerable to abuse, and we accept responsibility to take reasonable and appropriate steps to ensure their safety and welfare.

We acknowledge our duty of care to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and adults at risk. We are committed to ensuring safeguarding practice reflects statutory responsibilities, relevant local government guidance, and complies with best practice. Run Kids Run is committed to collaborating with law enforcement, social services, local services, and other relevant agencies, in accordance with their procedures.

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

- Has a positive and enjoyable experience at a **Run Kids Run** event in a safe environment
- Is protected from abuse whilst participating in a **Run Kids Run** event

As part of our Safeguarding Policy, **Run Kids Run** will:

- Promote and prioritise the safety and wellbeing of children and vulnerable adults
- Ensure appropriate action is taken in the event of incidents of, or concerns about, abuse, and provide support to those who raise or disclose the concern
- Ensure that confidential and accurate records of all safeguarding concerns are maintained and securely stored
- Ensure robust safeguarding arrangements and procedures are in operation
- Continue to keep events simple, and take a common-sense approach, to minimise risk

The Safeguarding Policy is publicly available via www.runkidsrun.org and regularly shared via our communications channels.

The procedures and guidance laid out are mandatory for everyone involved in **Run Kids Run**. We ask all **Run Kids Run** staff, ambassadors, event directors and trustees to familiarise themselves with this Safeguarding Policy so that Run Kids Run events are delivered to the highest possible standard with safeguarding prioritised at all times.

This Policy is reviewed regularly (at the very least annually), in order to maintain best practice.

KEY SAFEGUARDING PRINCIPLES

This Safeguarding Policy is based on the following key principles:

- Everyone who takes part in **Run Kids Run** should have the opportunity to have fun and enjoy themselves in an environment that keeps them safe from harm.
- The welfare, protection and safeguarding of children and vulnerable adults must always be paramount and should be based on prevention and best practice.
- It is everyone's right to be protected from abuse, irrespective of age, ability or disability, gender, race, religion or belief, sex or sexual orientation, or socio-economic background.
- Duty of care is the responsibility of all, regardless of whether in a paid or voluntary role.
- Any allegations of abuse will be treated sensitively and seriously and be responded to swiftly and appropriately.
- Confidentiality will be appropriately maintained, but the safety and welfare of the individual/s will be the overriding consideration when making decisions on whether to share information.
- Run Kids Run will support everyone involved in delivering and supporting events to understand their roles and responsibilities for safeguarding children and vulnerable adults; also to be aware of and understand best practice, and know-how to manage any child or vulnerable adult concerns they identify or are informed of.

What to do:

- If you think a child may be in immediate danger, call the police on 999 straight away, don't wait!

In the event of a concern:

- Raise your concern with one of the **Event Marshals** wearing a Run Kids Run high visibility jacket.
- The marshals will escalate the concern to the **Race Coordinator** on duty.
- The **Race Coordinator** will share the concern with the **Organisers** and discuss the issue with the parents, school staff/DSL or event staff to review the appropriate steps to take.

If you feel the issue is not handled satisfactorily,

- speak to the NSPCC Helpline on 0808 800 5000 or email help@nspcc.org
- contact the children's social care team at your local council
- contact the police on the 24/7 non-emergency line 101.