



## Section 5 – Safeguarding Policy

### Lagan Warrior Paddlers

Review 31st March 2030

**Lagan Warrior Paddlers** Canoe Club is fully committed to Safeguarding the well-being of its members. All members should show respect and understanding for the rights, safety and welfare of others, and conduct themselves in a way that reflects the principles of the Club.

The purpose of this policy statement is:

- To protect children and young people who receive Lagan Warrior Paddler's services from harm. This includes the children of adults who use our services.
- To provide members, coaches and volunteers, as well as children and young people and their families, with the overarching principles that guide our approach to child protection.

This policy applies to anyone connected with and on behalf of Lagan Warrior Paddlers, including coaches, volunteers and club members.

#### Legal Framework

Legal framework This policy has been drawn up on the basis of legislation, policy and guidance that seeks to protect children in Northern Ireland. A summary of the key legislation and guidance is available from [nspcc.org.uk/childprotection](http://nspcc.org.uk/childprotection).

#### We believe that:

Children and young people should never experience abuse of any kind. We have a responsibility to promote the welfare of all children and young people, to keep them safe and to practise in a way that's protects them.

#### We recognise that:

- The welfare of children is paramount in all the work we do and in all the decisions we take.
- Working in partnership with children, young people, their parents, carers and other agencies is essential in promoting young people's welfare.
- All children, regardless of age, disability, gender reassignment, race, religion or belief, sex, or sexual orientation have an equal right to protection from all types of harm or abuse.
- Some children are additionally vulnerable because of the impact of previous experiences, their level of dependency, communication needs or other issues.





- Extra safeguards may be needed to keep children who are additionally vulnerable safe from abuse.

## We will seek to keep children and young people safe by:

- Valuing, listening to and respecting them.
- Appointing a nominated child protection lead for children and young people, a deputy and a lead trustee/board member for safeguarding.
- Adopting child protection and safeguarding best practice through our policies, procedures and code of conduct for staff and volunteers.
- Developing and implementing an effective online safety policy and related procedures.
- Providing effective management for club members and volunteers through supervision, support, training and quality assurance measures so that all club members and volunteers know about and follow our policies, procedures and behaviour codes confidently and competently. Recruiting and selecting staff and volunteers safely, ensuring all necessary checks are made
- Recording and storing and using information professionally and securely, in line with data protection legislation and guidance [more information about this is available from the Information Commissioner's Office: [ico.org.uk/for organisations](https://ico.org.uk/for-organisations)].
- Sharing information about safeguarding and good practice with children and their families.
- Making sure that children, young people and their families know where to go for help if they have a concern.
- Using our safeguarding and child protection procedures to share concerns and relevant information with agencies who need to know, and involving children, young people, parents, families and carers appropriately.
- Using our procedures to manage any allegations against club members and volunteers appropriately.
- Creating and maintaining an anti-bullying environment and ensuring that we have a policy and procedure to help us deal effectively with any bullying that does arise.
- Ensuring that we have effective complaints and whistleblowing measures in place.
- Ensuring that we provide a safe physical environment for our children, young people, club members and volunteers, by applying health and safety measures in accordance with the law and regulatory guidance.
- Building a safeguarding culture where club members and volunteers, children, young people and their families, treat each other with respect and are comfortable about sharing concerns.

## Supporting Documentation

Attached:

-  Paddle Northern Ireland Safeguarding Children's Policy Statement.
-  Paddle Northern Ireland Safeguarding Adults Policy Statement.
-  Photography and Filming policy.
-  Communication with Minors – British Canoeing G20- Guidance on Digital Communications with Children (U18).

### **Nominated Safeguarding Officer**

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