



Seashell Training
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Safeguarding Children & Vulnerable Adults Policy

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Introduction

Seashell Training and the Royal Lifesaving Society (RLSS) are committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children, young people, and vulnerable adults. By establishing procedures for the relevant Awarding Organisations' Approved Centres/Providers, the relevant Awarding Organisation aims to provide all learners with the opportunity to maximise their learning and development within a safe and secure environment. As such, Seashell Training recognise the relevant Awarding Organisations' Safeguarding Children policies to ensure the welfare of children, young people and adults across our delivery centres and adopts the Seashell Training safeguarding and child protection policy for the business.

1. Policy aims and purpose

The relevant Awarding Organisations and Seashell Training work are working in partnership and aim to maintain the highest possible standards which meet social, moral and legal obligations to protect and safeguard the welfare of children, young people and vulnerable adults. Through promotion of this policy, Seashell Training as an approved training provider will provide guidance on identifying potential or suspected abuse and raise awareness of preventative measures to protect the interests of the Seashell Training and its representatives.

2. Definition of safeguarding

Safeguarding can be defined as the protection of children, young people or vulnerable adults from neglect, physical, emotional or sexual abuse. In particular, those children and young people up to the age of 18 who are unable to protect themselves from abuse, or vulnerable adults aged 18 or over who are unable take care of themselves, protect themselves from harm or prevent themselves from being exploited.

3. Types of abuse

3.1 Physical abuse

Physical abuse is deliberate, physical harm to an individual, or the wilful and neglectful failure to prevent physical harm or suffering. Types of physical abuse are inclusive of, but not limited to, hitting, throwing, shaking, burning or scalding, poisoning, drowning, suffocating. This includes physical harm caused by a parent or carer wishing to fabricate or induce the symptoms of illness.

3.2 Emotional abuse

Emotional abuse is the persistent emotional maltreatment of an individual leading to severe and adverse effects on the individual's emotional development. Such examples of emotional abuse include making the individual feel worthless or unloved, inadequate or unvalued. Symptoms may include limitation of learning or prevention of the individual's participation to normal social interaction. Emotional abuse could also lead to extreme bullying making the individual feel frightened, in danger or lead to exploitation or corruption of the individual. Domestic violence, adult mental problems and parental substance misuse may expose the individual to emotional abuse.



3.3 Sexual abuse

Sexual abuse involves forcing or enticing a child, young person or vulnerable adult to take part in sexual activities, whether or not they are aware of what is happening. These activities may involve physical contact (including penetrative or non-penetrative acts) or non-contact activities (including looking at or involving the individual in the production of pornographic materials, forcing the individual to watch sexual activities or encouraging them to behave in sexually inappropriate ways).

3.4 Neglect

Neglect is the persistent failure to meet an individual's basic physical, emotional and/or psychological needs, which is likely to result in significant harm. Types of neglect may include failure to provide adequate food, clothing, shelter (i.e., exclusion from the home or abandonment), failure to protect the individual from physical harm or danger, failure to provide access to medical care or treatment, or failure to provide adequate supervision (i.e., childminder).

4. Indicators of abuse

The below table provides examples of indicators of abuse; however, this list is not exhaustive.

Physical indicators	Emotional indicators
Unexplained bruising	Unexplained changes in behaviour
Repeated injuries	Difficulty in making friends
Injuries to the mouth	Distrustful to adults
Torn or bloodstained clothing	Excessive attachment to adults
Burns or scalds	Sudden drop in performance
Bites	Changes to attendance patterns
Fractures	Inappropriate behaviour or language
Inconsistent stories or excuses	Inappropriate sexual awareness

5. Approved Training Person

Seashell Training will:

- Ensure all Learners have access to and have acknowledged receipt of this policy and any relevant external policies.
- Adopt safeguarding procedures through codes of conduct for learners and trainers.
- Provide a safe environment for learners to maximise learning and development.
- Complete an enhanced disclosure and barring service (DBS) check and update every 3 years for trainers.



- Ensure trainers complete an approved safeguarding and protecting children in sport course and update every 12 months.
- Ensure all trainers abide by the relevant Awarding Organisations' code of ethics.
- <https://www.rlss.org.uk/codes-of-conduct-policy>

6. Protection against false allegations

It is equally important for Seashell Trainers who are involved with the delivery and assessment of the relevant Awarding Organisations' regulated qualifications and course delivery take steps to ensure that they are not put in a position where an allegation of abuse can be made against them.

These steps include:

- Maintaining a register at all times for learners, including lateness or absences
- Maintaining a register for participants where required for practical elements of a qualification.
- Following appropriate procedures in the event of lateness or absence of a learner and/or participant
- Working in an open environment where easily visible to others
- Remaining in the training venue until all participants have been collected.
- Avoiding unnecessary physical contact with learners and/or participants unless to prevent a danger to themselves or others.
- Avoiding first aid treatment unless delay could prove life threatening; this must always be carried out by the responsible First Aid Officer and with another adult present.
- Avoiding unaccompanied time with learners
- Avoiding suggestive remarks or acting inappropriately familiar with learners.
- Reporting potential concerns, allegations or abuse made by learners to the responsible Safeguarding Officer.
- Refraining from inviting or allowing learners to socialise with them outside of the learning environment.
- Refraining from providing personal information to learners (i.e., home address, telephone number).



7. Making referrals

Should a learner at the delivery site suspect or have concerns about possible abuse, the concern must be reported to as follows:

Seashell Safeguarding Officer:

Name: Marie Leather

Title: Trainer Business Owner

Email: marie.leather@seashell-training.co.uk

Contact Number: 07872 807947

The above safeguarding officer will in turn follow internal procedures for reporting the case to Children's Social Care Services.

Should suspicion or concern be raised about a learner or the relevant Awarding Organisations' quality assurance workforce, the allegation must be reported immediately to the Approved Training Person **Marie Leather** and the relevant Awarding Organisation for attention of the relevant Awarding Organisations' Responsible Officer.

8. Monitoring and review

This policy and its procedures will be reviewed annually to ensure it remains fit for purpose and reflects the legal obligations for the safeguarding of children, young people, and vulnerable adults.

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