



SAFEGUARDING POLICY STATEMENT

Owner: Steve Turner. Date for Review: Mar 2025

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SAFEGUARDING POLICY STATEMENT

This policy applies to all staff including senior managers and the board of trustees, paid staff, volunteers and sessional workers (freelancers), students or anyone working on behalf of Mount Cook.

THE PURPOSE OF THIS POLICY IS:

- To protect children and young people who attend Mount Cook Adventure Centre. This includes the children of any adults who use our services.
- To provide staff/volunteers with the principles that guide our approach to safeguarding.

Mount Cook Adventure Centre believes that a child or young person should never experience abuse of any kind. We have a responsibility to promote the welfare of all children and young people and to keep them safe. We are committed to practice in a way that protects them.

LEGAL FRAMEWORK

This policy has been drawn up on the basis of law and guidance that seeks to protect children, namely:

- Children Act 1989
- Working Together to Safeguard children (2023) Statutory Guidance
- United Convention of the Right of the Child 1991
- Data Protection Act 1998
- Sexual Offences Act 2003
- Children Act 2004
- Protection of Freedoms Act 2012
- Counter Terrorism and Securities Act 2015
- Data Protection Act (GDPR) 2018
- Voyeurism (Offences) Act 2019
- Domestic Abuse Act 2021
- Online Safety Act 2023
- Relevant Government guidance on safeguarding children eg (“The Prevent Duty 2023”)

WE RECOGNISE THAT:

- The welfare of the child is paramount, as enshrined in the Children Act 1989
- All children, regardless of age, disability, gender, racial heritage, religious belief, sexual orientation or identity, have a right to equal 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
- Working in partnership with children, young people, their parents, carers and other agencies is essential in promoting young people’s welfare

WE WILL SEEK TO KEEP CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE SAFE BY:

- Valuing them, listening to and respecting them
- Adopting child protection practices through procedures and a code of conduct for staff and volunteers
- Developing and implementing an effective e-safety policy and related procedures
- Providing effective management for staff and volunteers through supervision, support and training
- Recruiting staff and volunteers safely, ensuring all necessary checks are made
- Sharing information about child protection with children, parents, staff and volunteers

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- Sharing concerns with agencies who need to know, and involving parents and children appropriately

We are committed to reviewing our policy and good practice annually. An electronic copy of the full set of safeguarding procedures can be found here:

<https://mountcookactivity.sharepoint.com/sites/Management/Documents/>



Steve Turner
Chief Executive Officer
Mount Cook Adventure Centre

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