

SAFEGUARDING POLICY

The purpose of this policy statement is:

- to protect children and young people who receive Goodwood's services from harm. This includes the children of adults who use our services
- to provide staff 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 working on behalf of Goodwood, including senior managers and the directors, paid staff, volunteers, casual workers, agency staff, contractors and consultants.

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 protects them.
- we recognise that 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

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

- appointing a nominated child protection lead for children and young people, a deputy and a lead board member for safeguarding
- adopting child protection and safeguarding best practice through our policies, procedures and code of conduct for staff and volunteers
- providing effective management for staff and volunteers through supervision, support, training and quality assurance measures so that all relevant staff and volunteers know about and follow our policies, procedures and behaviour codes confidently and competently
- recording, storing and using information professionally and securely, in line with data protection legislation and guidance
- recruiting and selecting staff and volunteers safely, ensuring all necessary checks are made
- working with the governing bodies we are affiliated with, such as the BHA, the PGA and MSUK, to adopt their guidelines
- making sure that children, young people and their families know where to go for help if they have a concern
- using our procedures to manage any allegations against staff and volunteers appropriately
- ensuring that we have effective complaints and whistleblowing measures in place
- ensuring that we provide a safe physical environment for our children, young people, staff and volunteers, by applying health and safety measures in accordance with the law and regulatory guidance
- building a safeguarding culture where staff and volunteers, children, young people and their families, treat each other with respect and are comfortable about sharing concerns.

This policy statement came into force on 20 November 2019.

We are committed to reviewing our policy and good practice annually. This policy statement and accompanying procedures were last reviewed on 15 March 2023.