

ParkPlay aims to offer everyone the opportunity to experience the life-changing power of play. We believe that everyone should be able to take part at ParkPlay, enjoy being physically active and connecting with their community, in a safe environment where they are protected from harm.

As such, we acknowledge the duty of care we have to safeguard and promote the welfare of all involved at ParkPlay. We acknowledge that some people can be particularly vulnerable to abuse and we accept the responsibility to take reasonable and appropriate steps to ensure their welfare.

We are committed to ensuring our safeguarding practices reflect statutory responsibilities, government guidance and comply with best practice.

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

- has a positive and enjoyable experience at ParkPlay
- can participate in a safe environment
- is protected from harm whilst participating in all ParkPlay activity

As part of this policy, ParkPlay will:

- promote and prioritise the safety and wellbeing of children and vulnerable adults
- create and support a culture where safeguarding is prioritised, where all involved treat each other with respect and are comfortable about sharing or raising concerns
- ensure everyone understands their roles and responsibilities with regards to safeguarding
- prevent the employment/deployment of unsuitable individuals
- provide staff with relevant learning opportunities to recognise, identify and respond to signs of abuse and other safeguarding concerns

- provide effective management for staff and volunteers through supervision, support, training and quality assurance measures
- ensure appropriate action is taken in the event of incidents or disclosures of concerns or abuse, and support is provided to the individual(s) who raised or disclosed the concerns
- ensure that confidential and accurate records of all safeguarding concerns are maintained and securely stored
- maintain a Safeguarding Team, including as a minimum a lead trustee for safeguarding, the ParkPlay DSL and PlayLeaders
- ensure our safeguarding policy and all related procedures are widely promoted both internally and externally, so that staff and participants know where to look for help if they have questions or concerns
- seek guidance from and work with relevant agencies where applicable
- continue to take a common sense approach to safeguarding in order to minimise risk

Our safeguarding policy and related procedures will be widely promoted and are mandatory for everyone involved in ParkPlay.

We ask all ParkPlay staff and PlayLeaders to ensure they are familiar with our safeguarding policy and related procedures so that all ParkPlays are delivered to the highest standard with safeguarding prioritised at all times.

Failure to comply will be addressed without delay and may ultimately result in dismissal/exclusion from the organisation.

To ensure best practice, this policy is reviewed annually, following any changes in government guidance or legislation, as required by relevant regulatory bodies or as a result of any other significant change or event.

*This policy statement will be reviewed annually, unless a major incident or change in other policies requires this review to take place sooner.*