

**Wychavon Kayak Canoe Club**  
**Safeguarding Children, Young People and Vulnerable Adults**

Wychavon Kayak Canoe Club - are committed to ensuring that children and young adults are fully safeguarded whilst taking part in club activities, and these are designed to help them, 'Be healthy', 'Stay Safe', 'Make a Positive Contribution' and 'Enjoy and Achieve'.

We safeguard children and young people through our commitment towards abiding by and proactively implementing the British Canoe Union Child Protection Policy and Procedures.

Through this documentation and action we also seek to safeguard any vulnerable adults who participate in our club activities.

Vulnerable adults are '*people who are, or may be, in need of community care services by reason of mental or other disability, age or illness and who are or may be unable to take care of themselves, or unable to protect themselves against significant harm or exploitation*'.

Children and young adults include any person under the age of 18 and all of them, regardless of age, any disability they have, gender, racial origin, religious belief and sexual identity have a right to be protected from abuse.

**The Golden Rule** - Safeguarding Children, Young People and Vulnerable adults is everyone's responsibility - it is not your responsibility to decide whether a child/vulnerable adult is being abused but it is your responsibility to pass the information on to the appropriate person. Make a detailed note of what you've seen or heard but don't delay passing on the information to the person/organisation listed below that you feel will be in the best interests of the child/vulnerable person to be involved;

The Welfare Officer - Ellie Griffin 07876 651 104

The support Welfare Officer - TBC

The BCU Child Protection Officer - 0845 370 9500 / 9503 or 0777 570 7364

childprotection@bcu.org.uk [In all cases the BCU officer needs to be informed of your concern and to whom it has been reported]

Police - 999 or text 80992 for non emergency 0845 444 888 or contactus@westmercia.pnn.police

Social Services - 0845 607 2000

NSPCC Helpline - 0808 800 500

For more information regarding local child protection procedures see [www.worcestershiresafeguarding.org.uk](http://www.worcestershiresafeguarding.org.uk)

Coaches have rights to... While the child's welfare is paramount the interests of coaches need to be taken account of, particularly where falsely accused. A feature of the policy is to ensure that coaches are provided with access to confidential advice, guidance and support path provided separately to that provided for those with concerns. You can help to protect both the children/vulnerable adults in our sport and our coaches/helpers from wrongful allegations through following the;

Good Practice Guidelines in the Child Protection policy and procedures and be familiar with this document

The BCU Coaches and Officials Code of Conduct

Guidelines for completing Risk Assessments for all club activities

Contacting the BCU Coach Advisor for support - 0845 370 9500

## Your Club Welfare and Child Protection Officer is;

Ellie Griffin



07876 651 104

ellie\_g21@hotmail.com

If you have any concerns, no matter how small or insignificant you might feel they are, get in touch and report it. Any information will be handled in confidence and only passed on to third parties where it is in the best interests of young and/or vulnerable club members.

### My role and responsibilities include;

- receiving information from anyone who has child protection concerns and record it
- assess the information promptly and carefully, clarifying or obtaining more information about the matter as appropriate
- consult initially with a statutory child protection agency to test out any doubts or uncertainty about the concerns as soon as possible
- make a formal referral to a statutory child protection agency, e.g. Social Services department or the police, without delay. It is NOT the role of the club to decide whether a child has been abused or not. This is the task of the Social Services department and the police who have the legal responsibility, or the NSPCC who also have powers to investigate child protection concerns under the Children Act and the Children (N Ireland) Order.

**It is, however, everybody's responsibility to ensure that concerns are shared and appropriate action taken**

- report the concerns to the national Governing Body