

## **Introduction and purpose**

This policy applies to all trustees and members of the Chapelton Community Association as well as anyone involved in activities including children and young people run by or on behalf of the Chapelton Community Association. The purpose of this policy is to protect children and young people (those aged under 18 years) who participate in activities organised by or on behalf of the Chapelton Community Association. It also provides trustees, members and other adults attending such events with the basic principles that guide our approach to child protection.

Chapelton Community Association believes that no child or young person should ever experience abuse of any kind and that we all have a responsibility to promote the welfare of children and young people and keep them safe.

### **Types of abuse:**

**Physical abuse:** deliberately hurting a child and causing injuries such as cuts, bruises, burns and broken bones. It also includes making up symptoms of illness or causing a child to become unwell.

**Neglect:** the ongoing failure to meet a child's basic needs. A child might be left hungry, dirty, without proper clothing, shelter or supervision

**Sexual abuse:** children may be tricked or forced into sexual behaviour. They may not understand what is happening is abuse or that it is wrong.

**Emotional abuse:** the ongoing emotional mistreatment of a child. It is sometimes referred to as psychological abuse. It can involve deliberately trying to scare, humiliate, isolate or ignore a child

**Grooming:** when someone builds a relationship, trust and emotional connection with a child so they can manipulate, exploit or abuse them.

The NSPCC website has further information on types of abuse and spotting the signs:  
<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/what-is-child-abuse/spotting-signs-child-abuse/>

### **Who can be abusers:**

Anyone including other children and young people

### **Where can abuse happen:**

Anywhere, including online.

## **Policy statement**

Chapelton Community Association recognises that all children and young people should be safe from abuse and that all adults who come into contact with children and young people have a responsibility to keep children and young people safe.

Chapelton Community Association is committed to organising and carrying out activities in a way that protects children and young people.

### **Chapelton Community Association is committed to keeping all children and young people safe by:**

- taking seriously any concerns over a child or young person's welfare. We advise anyone with such a concern to contact the relevant agency as outlined in the *Roles and Responsibilities* section below as soon as possible.
- adopting child protection best practice through our policies and procedures and ensuring those running activities where children attend are aware of such policies.
- ensuring we provide a safe physical environment for children and young people by applying health and safety measures and risk assessments in accordance with the law and regulatory guidance
- ensuring that all children and young people are accompanied by a responsible adult when they attend events organised by or on behalf of the Chapelton Community Association and are not left alone at such events.
- responsible adults ensuring children and young people do not engage in behaviour that endangers themselves or others.
- ensuring that trustees or members who are running or in attendance at activities organised by or on behalf of Chapelton Community Association do not put themselves in situations where they are left alone with children or young people at these events.
- where circumstances lead to the responsible adult no longer being able to care for their child or young person during an event, those representing Chapelton Community Association must support the child or young person in the presence of at least one other adult.

## **Policy Context**

This policy is informed by:

**Chapelton Community Association Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy  
Version 1 November 2022**

- Children (Scotland) Act (1995)
- Children (Scotland) Act (2014)
- National Guidance for Child Protection in Scotland (2014)
- National Guidance for Child Protection in Scotland (2020)
- United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC)

**Roles and responsibilities**

The trustees are responsible for ensuring an appropriate child protection policy is in place. The policy will be reviewed regularly to ensure it is compliant with current legislation and best practice. The policy is available to members and to the public.

Everyone, including trustees, members and other adults involved in or attending activities organised by or on behalf of the Chapelton Community Association are responsible for the welfare of children and young people who attend an event and have the responsibility to report any concerns to the appropriate agency as detailed below.

It is not the responsibility of Chapelton Community Association or any other adult in attendance at an event to decide whether a child is at risk or not. This is the responsibility of child protection agencies and therefore all concerns must be reported using the contacts below

**Contacting Aberdeenshire Children and Families Team:**

**Email:** aberdeenshireHSCP@aberdeenshire.gov.uk

**Phone:** Stonehaven Children and Families Team 01569 690575

**For urgent support contact:**

Aberdeenshire Children and Families team urgent social care service: 03456 081206  
OR

Police Scotland emergency: 999

Police Scotland non-emergency:101

**Contacting NHS Grampian:**

Designated Doctor/Nurse Consultant in Child Protection: 01224 551706

Urgent/out of hours: Royal Aberdeen Children's Hospital: 0845 4566000

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The below website gives further information on reporting a child protection concern:  
<https://www.girfec-aberdeenshire.org/report-a-concern/>

### **Further support and advice**

If a child or young person tells you they are being abused or tells you something that concerns you:

- Stay calm and listen to them
- Never promise to keep it a secret - tell them you must let someone know
- Remind them that they are not to blame and are doing the right thing
- Report it, but leave any investigation to child protection agencies.

Further information on child welfare, recognising the signs of abuse and how to report a concern can be found on the Aberdeenshire Getting it Right For Every Child website:  
<https://www.girfec-aberdeenshire.org/>