



Swimming

for people with a disability

Safeguarding Policy

This policy applies to any official, helper, volunteer, member or visitor of the Sea Lion Swimming Club. Its purpose is to promote the safety and protection of all children, young people and vulnerable adults attending the Sea Lion Swimming Club.

The Sea Lion Swimming Club believes that a child, young person or vulnerable adult should never experience abuse of any kind and that any children, young people or vulnerable adults should receive the protection and support they need if they are at risk of abuse. We have a responsibility to promote the welfare of all children, young people and vulnerable adults and need to keep them safe.

This policy provides clear direction to officials, helpers and volunteers at the Sea Lion Swimming Club if they have concerns that a child, young person or vulnerable adult is in need of protection.

The name of the Club's Designated Safeguarding Lead is [Alison Sturgess](#). The Club's Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead is [Linda Wood](#). They have both undertaken child protection/safeguarding training to the appropriate level.

The Sea Lion Swimming Club recognises that:

- the welfare of the child is paramount, as enshrined in the Children Act 1989.
- all children, young people and vulnerable adults 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, young people and vulnerable adults 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 adults, vulnerable adults, their parents, carers and other agencies is essential in promoting `welfare.

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

- valuing them, listening to them and respecting them.
- adopting safeguarding practices through procedures and a code of conduct for helpers and volunteers.
- developing and implementing an effective safeguarding policy and related procedures
- providing effective management for helpers and volunteers through supervision, support and training.
- recruiting helpers and volunteers safely, ensuring all necessary checks are made.
- sharing information about safeguarding and good practice with children, young people, vulnerable adults, parents, family members and volunteers.
- sharing concerns with agencies who need to know, and involving parents, children, young people and vulnerable adults appropriately.

Different types of abuse:

1. Physical abuse

Physical abuse happens when someone is deliberately hurt, causing injuries such as cuts, bruises, burns and broken bones. It can involve hitting, kicking, shaking, throwing, poisoning, burning or suffocating. It's also physical abuse if a parent or carer makes up or causes the symptoms of illness in someone. For example, they may give them medicine they don't need, making them unwell. This is known as fabricated or induced illness.

2. Sexual abuse

Sexual abuse is forcing or enticing someone to take part in sexual activities. It doesn't necessarily involve violence and the person may not be aware that they are being abused.

Sexual abuse can involve contact abuse and/or non-contact abuse. Contact abuse happens when the abuser makes physical contact with someone. Non-contact abuse involves non-touching activities. It can happen online or in person,

3. Emotional abuse

Emotional abuse is the ongoing emotional maltreatment of a someone. It's sometimes called psychological abuse and can seriously damage emotional health and development. It includes:

- humiliating, putting down or constantly criticising someone.
- shouting at or threatening someone or calling them names.
- mocking someone or making them perform degrading acts.
- constantly blaming or scapegoating someone for things that are not their fault.
- trying to control someone's life and not recognising their individuality.
- not allowing them to have friends or develop socially.
- pushing someone too hard or not recognising their limitations.
- manipulating someone.
- exposing someone to distressing events or interactions such as drug taking, heavy drinking or domestic abuse.
- persistently ignoring them.
- being cold and emotionally unavailable during interactions with someone.
- never saying anything kind, positive or encouraging to someone and failing to praise their achievements and successes.

4. Neglect

Neglect is persistently failing to meet someone's basic physical and/or psychological needs usually resulting in serious damage to their health and development. Neglect may involve a parent or carer failing to:

- provide adequate food, clothing or shelter.
- provide supervision (including leaving them with unsuitable carers) or keep them safe from harm or danger.
- make sure they receive appropriate health and/or dental care.
- make sure they receive a suitable education.
- meet their basic emotional needs.

The Prevent Duty

In order to comply with the Counter Terrorism and Security Act 2015, the Sea Lion Swimming Club promotes the four British values that are designed to keep children, young people and vulnerable adults safe and promotes their welfare. It is our duty to raise awareness, recognise and support

both children and adults. This includes awareness of the expression of extremist views. There is no single way to identify an individual who is likely to be susceptible to a terrorist ideology, but at the Sea Lion Swimming Club we manage risks, notice changes and patterns of behaviour and if we are concerned, we act appropriately and proportionally.

Ways that abuse might be brought to your attention:

- a child, young person or vulnerable adult might make a direct disclosure about himself/herself or another individual.
- a child, young person or vulnerable adult might offer information that is worrying but not a direct disclosure.
- an adult might be concerned about a child, young person or vulnerable adult's appearance or behaviour or about the behaviour of a parent/carer towards a child, young person or vulnerable adult.
- an adult might make a disclosure about abuse that a child, young person or vulnerable adult is suffering or at risk of suffering.
- an adult might offer information about a child, young person or vulnerable adult that is worrying but not a direct disclosure.

If abuse is suspected or disclosed:

- reassure the child, young person or vulnerable adult that telling someone about it was the right thing to do.
- tell him/her that you will do what you can to keep him/her (or the child who is the subject of the allegation) safe.
- let the child, young person or vulnerable adult know what you are going to do next and who else needs to know about it.
- let the child, young person or vulnerable adult tell his or her whole story. Don't try to investigate or quiz the child, young person or vulnerable adult but make sure that you are clear as to what he/she is saying.
- ask the child, young person or vulnerable adult what he/she would like to happen because of what he/she has said, but don't make or infer promises you can't keep.
- for a child or young person give them the ChildLine phone number: 0800-1111.

Logging an incident

All information about the suspected abuse or disclosure should be recorded as soon as possible after the event. The record should include:

- date of the disclosure or of the incident causing concern.
- date and time at which the record was made.
- name and date of birth of the child, young person or vulnerable adult involved.
- a factual report of what happened. If recording a disclosure, it is essential to use the child, young person or vulnerable adult's own words.
- Name, role and signature of the person reporting the incident.

Use the Club's Safeguarding Incident Report Form to record the incident in as much detail as you can remember and how it was dealt with. Once completed the form should be handed to the Club's Designated Safeguarding Lead or the Club's Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead.

Allegations against Club helpers and volunteers:

- any allegation will be taken seriously and recorded in writing. Any witnesses will be asked to make a witness statement in writing confirming the time, date and details of the incident
- it may be necessary to suspend the helper or volunteer pending full investigation of the allegation.
- helpers and volunteers under investigation will be treated sensitively, fairly and with respect.
- a meeting will be held within 7 days between the helper or volunteer being accused of abuse and the Club's Designated Safeguarding Lead.
- facts will be recorded and kept secure. All parties concerned will receive a written account of the meeting and actions within 7 days of the date of the meeting. All parties concerned will be kept up-to-date with what is happening and given a response within 7 days of completion of investigation.

Helping a child, young person or vulnerable adult in immediate danger or in need of emergency medical attention:

- If the child, young person or vulnerable adult is in immediate danger and is with you, remain with him/her and call the police.
- if the child, young person or vulnerable adult is elsewhere, contact the police and explain the situation to them.
- If the child, young person or vulnerable adult needs emergency medical attention, call an ambulance and, while you are waiting for it to arrive, get help from a first aider.
- if a first aider is not available, use any first aid knowledge that you may have yourself to help.
- you also need to contact the Club's Designated Safeguarding Lead to let them know what is happening.

A decision will need to be made about who should inform the child, young person or vulnerable adult's family/carers and when they should be informed. If you have involved the police and/or the health services, they should be part of this decision. Consider the welfare of the child, young person or vulnerable adult in your decision making as the highest priority. Issues that will need to be considered include:

- the child, young person or vulnerable adult's wishes and feelings.
- the parent's right to know (unless this would place them or someone else in danger or would interfere with a criminal investigation).
- the impact of telling or not telling the parent/carer.
- the current assessment of the risk to them and the source of that risk.

Useful contact details:

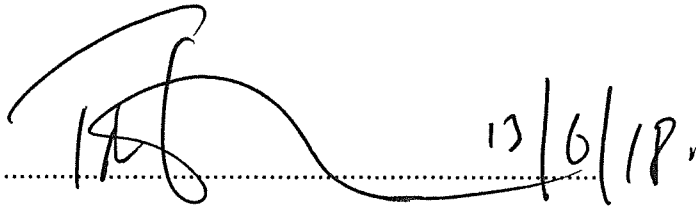
- Designated Safeguarding Lead for the Sea Lion Swimming Club.
 - Alison Sturgess: 01923-266881 or 07702-555393
- Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead for the Sea Lion Swimming Club.
 - Linda Wood: 01923-679001
- Local police: 101 (non-emergency) or 999 (emergency)
- Hertfordshire County Council Child Care Services: 0300-123-4043
- Hertfordshire County Council Adult Care Services: 0300-123-4042
- NSPCC Helpline: 0808-800-5000 or help@nspcc.org.uk
- ChildLine: 0800-1111 or www.childline.org.uk

Adopted on: 13/06/18

Reviewed on: 13/06/18

Next Review Due: 13/06/19

Signed:

A large, stylized handwritten signature in black ink, written over a horizontal dotted line. The signature is cursive and appears to be 'A. J. ...'. To the right of the signature, the date '13/6/18' is written in a similar cursive style.

Position:

Chairman