Safeguarding Policy Statement

November 2020 Version 1.0SPS

The purpose and scope of this policy statement

ABC Animal Sanctuary provides rescue, rehabilitation and care for animals in need. We aim to ensure that all of the animals in our care can either be prepared for re-homing or live out their lives in the care of the Sanctuary. Volunteers are at the core of the work done at the Sanctuary and play an integral role in caring for our animals.

The purpose of this policy statement is:

- 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 Alexandra Bastedo (Champions) Animal Sanctuary Ltd, known as ABC Animal Sanctuary, including team leaders and the board of trustees, paid staff, volunteers, and contractors.

Legal framework

This policy has been drawn up based on of legislation, policy and guidance that seeks to protect children in England.

Supporting documents

This policy statement should be read alongside our organisational policies, procedures, guidance and other related documents.

- Safeguarding policy
- Behaviour code for adult volunteers
- Behaviour codes for children and young people
- Dealing with Problems, Policy & Procedure

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 work in a manner that protects them.

Safeguarding Policy Statement

We recognise that:

- the welfare of children and young people is paramount when they volunteer with us
- 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
- some children 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 people, their parents, carers and other agencies are essential in promoting young people's welfare.

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

- valuing, listening to and respecting them
- appointing a nominated safeguarding officer for children and young people, a deputy for safeguarding
- adopting child protection and safeguarding best practice through code of conduct for staff and volunteers
- providing volunteers with training so that all staff and volunteers know about and follow our policies, procedures and behaviour codes confidently and competently
- recruiting and selecting volunteers safely, ensuring any necessary checks are made
- recording, storing and using information professionally and securely, in line with data protection legislation and guidance.
- making sure that children, young people and their families know where to go for help if they have a concern
- using our safeguarding and child protection procedures to share concerns and relevant information with agencies who need to know, and involving children, young people, parents, families and carers appropriately
- using our procedures to manage any allegations against staff and volunteers appropriately
- ensuring that we have effective complaints measures in place
- ensuring that we provide a safe physical environment for our 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.

Safeguarding Policy Statement

Contact details

Safeguarding Officer

Name: Gemma Page - Trustee

email: Gemma@abcanimalsanctuary.co.uk

Deputy Safeguarding Officer

Name: Maggie Southwell - Trustee

email: Maggie@abcanimalsanctuary.co.uk

Trustee/Senior lead for safeguarding and child protection

Name: Dominic Citrone - Trustee

email: Dominic@abcanimalsanctuary.co.uk

NSPCC Helpline

0808 800 5000

We are committed to reviewing our policy and good practice annually.

Document Control		
Version	Status	Date
V1.0SPS	Board Approved	29/10/2020