



Aimee Fairhurst trading as Stable Connections

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Safeguarding Policy

1. Purpose of the Policy:

The purpose of this Safeguarding Policy is to outline the commitment and procedures of Stable Connections to ensure the safety, protection, and well-being of children who participate in our equine programmes. This policy aims to create a safe environment where children can engage in activities free from any form of abuse, neglect, or harm. We recognise that safeguarding is everyone's responsibility and that all children, regardless of age, disability, gender, racial heritage, religious belief, sexual orientation or identity, have the right to equal protection from all types of harm or abuse.

2. Legal Framework:

Our Safeguarding Policy is developed in accordance with relevant national and local laws and regulations concerning child protection, including but not limited to:

- Children's Act 1989
- United Convention of Rights of a Child 1991
- Data protection Act 1998
- Sexual Offences Act 2003
- Children Act 2004
- Protection of Freedoms Act 2012
- Relevant Government Guidance on Safeguarding Children

3. Keeping Children Safe:

3.1. Prevention Measures:

- a) Staff and Volunteer Recruitment: We maintain a rigorous



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recruitment process, including background checks, reference checks, and screening, to ensure that all staff and volunteers working with children have the necessary qualifications, skills, and character to fulfil their roles safely.

- b) Training and Awareness:** All staff and volunteers receive comprehensive training on safeguarding, recognising signs of abuse, responding to disclosures, and reporting procedures. Regular refresher training is conducted to maintain awareness and update knowledge.
- c) Code of Conduct:** We have a clear code of conduct that outlines appropriate behaviour and interactions with children, emphasising the importance of maintaining professional boundaries, respect, and dignity.
- d) Safe Environment:** We maintain a safe and secure physical environment, including appropriate supervision, proper equipment, and adherence to health and safety standards. We also consider online safety measures when applicable.
- e) Risk Assessment:** Regular risk assessments are conducted to identify and address potential risks to children's safety and well-being within our activities and facilities.

3.2. Reporting and Responding:

- a) Reporting Procedures:** We have established clear procedures for reporting suspected child abuse, neglect, or concerns. Any staff, volunteer, or participant who becomes aware of or suspects abuse must report it to the designated Child Safeguarding Officer (CSO) - Aimee Fairhurst.
- b) Confidentiality and Information Sharing:** Information regarding child protection concerns will be treated with utmost confidentiality. However, we recognise that sharing information with appropriate authorities may be necessary to protect the child's welfare and comply with legal obligations.
- c) Cooperation with Authorities:** We will cooperate fully with child



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protection agencies, law enforcement, and other relevant authorities during investigations, ensuring the best interests of the child are prioritized.

3.3. Support and Care:

- a)** Reporting Support: whistleblowers and those reporting concerns in good faith will be supported throughout the process, and appropriate measures will be taken to protect them from retaliation.
- b)** Child Support: We will provide access to appropriate support services for children who have experienced abuse, including counselling, medical assistance, and other necessary interventions. We will work collaboratively with relevant professionals and agencies to ensure the child's well-being.

4. Staff and Volunteer Responsibilities:

- a)** Duty of Care: All staff and volunteers have a duty of care to protect children from harm, promote their well-being, and report any concerns promptly.
- b)** Supervision and Monitoring: Adequate supervision and monitoring of staff, volunteers, and interactions with children will be maintained to ensure compliance with this policy.
- c)** Training and Capacity Building: We will provide regular training and development opportunities to equip staff and volunteers with the knowledge and skills required to implement effective child safeguarding practices.

5. Policy Review:

This Safeguarding Policy will be regularly reviewed and updated to ensure compliance with evolving legal requirements, best practices, and the changing needs of the organization and the children it serves.



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This policy was reviewed on 15/07/2025

Signed AFn _____

Aimee Fairhurst; Founder

Date reviewed:

Next review date: