Registered Charity No:1169176
Contact 0300 3035252
www.littlelifesavers.org
info@littlelifesavers.org

Little LifeSavers Safe Adults; A Code of Conduct

Safe Adults are people who genuinely care about others and demonstrate good safeguarding behaviours. They understand that their volunteering role is a position of trust and there is a natural power dynamic present in their interaction with children as part of the Little LifeSavers volunteer team, which they steward with care to positively encourage and nurture the child.

In the setting of abuse prevention and safeguarding a Safe Adult will:

- Be kind and supportive of a child without the need or expectation of reward, privileged access or affection from that child.
- Not seek to interact with a child alone or outside the setting or without the knowledge of parents or school.
- Not make any unnecessary physical contact with a child. If contact is necessary to correct the performance of a skill- for example hand position for CPR on the manikin- contact will be:
    - impersonal,
    - brief with light touch and open hands (no wrist or arm grip)
    - on the limbs and under the chin for chin lift only- never on the chest or abdomen
    - occur during skill practice in the group setting only
- Correct inappropriate attitudes and behaviours without shaming the child
- Use appropriate language and take care to not make comments that could be interpreted as aggressive, suggestive or contain innuendo

Little LifeSavers sessions are busy with little opportunity for extensive contact with individual children. However, our charity offers Ambassador opportunities to both adults and children, so these expectations are relevant to all interactions where our staff and volunteers have contact with children and young people.

Below are examples of safe adult behaviour vs unsafe. We expect all staff and volunteers to demonstrate safe adult behaviour in their interactions on behalf of our charity.

What do Safe Adults look like?

Safe Behaviour	**Unsafe Behaviour**
Physical Contact Physical contact is minimal, brief and only when appropriate and impersonal	Demonstrates excessive, unusual or personal touching- especially near the legs, chest, stomach, or genital region.

Safe Behaviour	Unsafe Behaviour
No favourites: Treats all of the children close to them equally. Although they might be closer to a certain child due to the child's personality or their relationship with the parent, they will not neglect other children present in order to pay attention to any one child in particular.	Singles out one "favourite" child with whom they spend significant time, giving them special attention or even gifts. This behaviour can be especially evident while other children (including siblings) are present.
Transparent Spends time with the child around a parent, other adults, or in public. They won't seek out alone time with the child but might agree to do so if requested by a parent.	Searches for reasons to be alone with the child. This could include enthusiastically offering to return for 121 lessons, give the child a ride to an event alone, or host a sleepover.
Social Media Contact on social media will be minimal and public, if at all. Any private conversations will be conducted with the full knowledge and consent of a parent or guardian	Privately contacts the child on social media. Conversation will be personal, frequent, and, in most cases, secret.
Appropriate conversation & language Avoids inappropriate conversation and keeps discussion centred on child-friendly content while children are present.	Personal and inappropriate comments, innuendo and may flatter or compliment inappropriately. Discusses or mentions sex, sexual acts, or private body parts while a child is present.
Respect Respects parents' rules and boundaries concerning their child's safety.	Questions parents' rules and decisions, accusing them of being overly protective — especially when those rules restrict the amount of time the child spends with them.

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Concerns regarding a child must be reported immediately to the teacher supervising the session and to the safeguarding lead at the school
After the session to the Safeguarding Lead Trustee Barbara Stanley barbara@littlelifesavers.org as per our safeguarding policy

For further information please see
https://learning.nspcc.org.uk/safeguarding-child-protection/managing-allegations-of-abuse

This document has been written from the following resources:
https://sharedhope.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/06/Safe-Adult-Fact-Sheet_6.14.21.pdf
https://themamabeareffect.org/prevent/minimizing-opportunity/
https://www.stopitnow.org/help-guidance/prevention-tools
https://www.girlguiding.org.uk/information-for-volunteers/policies/safeguarding-policy/good-safeguarding-behaviours/