



BLGC Safeguarding Policy Statement

Scope

The purpose of this statement is to ensure that all staff, volunteers, trustees, and external agencies including partners delivering on behalf of the BLGC are aware of their legal and personal responsibilities to ensure the safeguarding and welfare of children and young people.

- BLGC's commitment to safeguarding
- Key safeguarding principles
- Safeguarding governance and accountabilities
- Safeguarding procedures for all employees and volunteers
- Working with local authorities and the NHS on safeguarding

Definition of Safeguarding

Safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children is defined for the purposes of this guidance as:

- protecting children from maltreatment;
- preventing impairment of children's health or development;
- ensuring that children grow up in circumstances consistent with the provision of safe and effective care;
- taking action to enable all children to have the best outcomes.

1. Commitment

BLGC is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children, young people and vulnerable adults. This statement works in conjunction with the following policies and procedures.

- Safeguarding Children and Young People Policy
- Safeguarding vulnerable adults Policy
- Safer Recruitment Policy
- A code of behaviour/conduct
- Lone Working Policy
- Professional Boundaries Policy
- Supervision Policy
- Online Safety Policy
- Managing Allegations and Low-Level Concerns Policy
- Anti-bullying Policy
- Complaints, Compliments and Comments Policy
- Whistleblowing Policy

2. Principles

BLGC takes seriously its responsibility to protect and safeguard the welfare of the children, young people and vulnerable adults entrusted to its care.

As part of the ethos of BLGC the staff, volunteers and trustees are committed to:

- Encouraging and supporting parents/carers/guardians and working together in partnership with them
- Listening to, relating effectively with, and valuing each individual child, young person or vulnerable adult in our care
- Ensuring that all members of staff, full-time, part-time, and voluntary are properly trained and supported
- The safe recruitment of staff and volunteers at BLGC is the first step to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of the children and young people that access BLGC

This can only be achieved through sound procedures, good inter agency cooperation and the recruitment and retention of competent, motivated employees and volunteers who are suited to and fulfilled in the roles they undertake.

We recognise that some children, young people, and vulnerable adults today are the victims of neglect and/or physical, sexual or emotional abuse and that employees, volunteers and trustees, by virtue of their day-to-day contact with and knowledge are well placed to identify such abuse and to offer support to those in need.

3. Roles and Responsibilities

BLGC is committed to the very highest standards in terms of Safeguarding, believing that Safeguarding is everyone's business. The Children Act 1989 and 2004 make it clear that people who work with children have the responsibility to keep them safe. This is supported by the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (to which the UK is a signatory) which sets out the rights of children to be free from abuse. The document 'Working Together to Safeguard Children (2023)' sets out the arrangements for how all organisations must work together to safeguard and promote the welfare of children.

Board of Trustees

The BLGC Board of Trustees is accountable for ensuring that the charity has appropriate structure, processes, and resources in place to ensure safeguarding is central to all the charity does, and for monitoring compliance. As part of fulfilling their duties, trustees must take reasonable steps to protect from harm, people who come into contact with BLGC. This includes:

- Beneficiaries
- Staff
- Volunteers
- Other people who come into contact with BLGC through its work

CEO and Leadership Team

The CEO and Leadership team are responsible for safeguarding across the charity. The CEO and Leadership Team promote safer working practices and oversight of allegations of serious incidents, case reviews, and appropriate training.

Designated Safeguarding Lead

Designated Safeguarding Lead is competent to advise staff and volunteers and can respond to safeguarding concerns, ensuring that actions are always respectful, professional and based on what we know to be good practice.

Legal framework

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

The Children Acts 1989

<https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/1989/41/content>

The Children Act 2004

[untitled \(legislation.gov.uk\)](https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2004/31/content)

Children and Social Work Act 2017

<https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2017/16/contents/enacted>

The United Nations Convention on the Rights of The Child (1989)

[The United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child - UNICEF UK](https://www.unicef.org/uk/about-us/our-work/our-approach/the-united-nations-convention-on-the-rights-of-the-child)

Education Act (2002)

<https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2002/32/contents>

Prevent Strategy 2015

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/prevent-duty-guidance>

The Serious Crimes Act 2015

<https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2015/9/contents>

Modern Slavery Act 2015

<https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2015/30/contents/enacted>

Working Together to Safeguard Children: A guide to interagency working to safeguard and promote the welfare of children' 2023

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/669e7501ab418ab055592a7b/Working_together_to_safeguard_children_2023.pdf