



Version Number	4
Approved	2/11/24 by the Trustee Board
Next Review	October 25

Safeguarding Policy

1. Child Protection is our number one concern. Warranted Leaders complete training and follow a Code of Behaviour also referred to as 'Young People First Code of Practice' or the 'yellow card', which is carried at all times. The yellow card can be downloaded [HERE](#).
2. It is the Policy of the Scouts to safeguard the welfare of all children, young people and adults at risk by protecting them from neglect and from physical, sexual and emotional harm. The Scouts understand that individuals thrive in safe surroundings, so is committed to ensuring that the Scouts is safe and enjoyable for everyone involved and that safeguarding practice reflects statutory responsibilities, government guidance and complies with best practice and The Charity Commission requirements (POR Chapter 2.4).
3. The policy:
 - a) applies to all adults including the Board of Trustees, volunteers, paid staff, agency staff and anyone working on behalf of the Scouts
 - b) recognises that the welfare and interests of children, young people & adults at risk are paramount in all circumstances, and
 - c) aims to ensure that all children, young people and adults at risk have a positive and enjoyable scouting experience in a safe and person-centred environment and are protected from abuse whilst participating in the Scouts and otherwise. (POR Chapter 2.4).
4. It is the responsibility of all adults involved in the Scouts to have read and understood the Safeguarding Policy & Procedures and to follow the [Young People First Code of Practice \(Yellow Card\)](#).

Raising a Concern

1. If you or a young person has a concern, please speak to your Section Leader, Group Scout Leader or the District Commissioner.
2. Refer also to [Reporting a Concern](#)

Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) (formerly known as CRB)

A DBS check is carried out on all volunteers.

Safe Scouting Emergency Procedures

The Purple Card (Safe Scouting and what to do in an emergency) is for all adults in Scouting. It contains essential information. The purple card can be accessed [HERE](#).

Adult Behaviour - Young People First Code of Behaviour ([yellow card](#))

The Code describes the expected level of behaviour by adults:

- Do** treat everyone with dignity and respect in line with the Scouting Values
- Do** treat all young people equally - do not show favouritism
- Do** follow the adult-to-young person ratios at all times
- Do** remember that you have been placed in a position of trust - do not abuse this
- Do** report all allegations, suspicions and concerns immediately
- Do** remember that someone may misinterpret your actions
- Do** respect a young person's right to personal privacy
- Do** act within appropriate boundaries, even in difficult circumstances
- Do** encourage an open and transparent culture, where people can challenge inappropriate attitudes or behaviours
- Do** make everyone (young people, parents and carers, Young Leaders and other helpers) aware of our safeguarding arrangements and share our Yellow Card - our Code of Behaviour
- Do** create an environment where young people feel safe to voice their concerns
- Do** have separate sleeping accommodation for young people, adults and Young Leaders working with a younger section
- Do** plan activities that involve more than one other person being present, or at least within sight and hearing of others.
- Do not** plan to be alone with a young person.
- Do not** drink alcohol when you are directly responsible for young people and never allow young people on Scouting activities to drink alcohol
- Do not** trivialise abuse or let it go unreported
- Do not** join in physical contact games with young people
- Do not** overstep the boundaries between yourself and young people by engaging in friendships or sexual relationships
- Do not** allow activities that encourage bullying behaviour including initiation ceremonies, dares or forfeits
- Do not** use inappropriate, suggestive or threatening language, whether verbal, written or online
- Do not** rely on your reputation or position to protect you

Photographs

Only certain people e.g. Section Leaders, are authorised to may take photos of young people. Photos should not be stored on personal devices.

Youth Member Anti-Bullying Policy

Refer to 1st Linslade Scout Group's Youth Member Anti-Bullying Policy.

Occasional Helpers

Ist Linslade Scout Group very much appreciates the support of Occasional Helpers (parents and other adults) and without this help, could not offer so many camps and activities. For child protection reasons, Occasional Helpers are required to:

- Read the Association's Child Protection Policy.
- Carry the yellow card.
- If attending camps / residential activities, complete the Safety and Safeguarding online training modules.

Trustees

Trustees are required to follow the same procedures as Occasional Helpers.

Guidance, support and contacts

[Safeguarding Policy and Procedures \(Young People and Adults at Risk\)](#)

[Staying safe and Safeguarding](#)

[Reporting a Concern](#)

[Parents how we keep your child Safe in Scouting](#) (including Safe and Sound Leaflet)

Having read this information, if you wish to report any matters of concern about an individual or individuals in Scouting then please contact:

1st Linslade Designated safeguarding lead: Becky Skinner safeguarding@1stlinslade.org.uk

the Scout Association's safeguarding team at: safeguarding@scouts.org.uk

Other Contacts:

Central Bedfordshire Council 0300 300 8585 / Out of hours: 0300 300 8123

***Email:* cs.accessandreferral@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk**

The Scout Association (open from 8am–7pm weekdays and 9am–midday on Saturdays.

<http://scouts.org.uk/contact-us/> Phone: 0345 300 1818 (local rate) or 020 8433 7100

If you have concerns about the conduct and behaviour of someone working with children and young people you can contact **Central Bedfordshire's LADO** on 0300 300 4833/ 0300 300 8142.

NSPCC 0808 800 5000

Childline 0800 11 11

Samaritans 116 123

Crimestoppers 0800 555 111

CAMHS - Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (Dunstable) 01582 707635