



SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE POLICY

Safeguarding legislation and Government guidance says that safeguarding means:

- Protecting children from maltreatment
- Preventing impairment of children's health or development
- Ensuring that children are growing up in circumstances consistent with the provision of safe and effective care
- Taking action to enable all children and young people to have the best outcome

For further information go to:

www.education.gov.uk/aboutdfe/statutory/g00213160/working-together-to-safeguard-children

We as **Homestay and Venture Breaks (HS&VB)** seek to maintain a safe and supportive environment for all involved in our services including directors, activity providers, volunteers and all members of hosting families.

We ask you all to avoid making yourselves vulnerable to any form of suspicion of breaching safeguarding.

The Purpose of our policy is:

- To provide protection for the children and young people who receive **HS&VB's** services
- To identify procedures to follow if risk or experience of harm is suspected.
- To promote safeguarding awareness

We will do this by:

Making sure that all who work within **HS&VB**, whether paid or voluntary, are carefully selected

- Making sure that all who have responsibility for, or substantial access to, under 18s, will have appropriate suitability checks with the **Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS)**
- Ensuring that the children and young people using our services know and understand our expected codes of behaviour
- Providing access to information and training in child protection and safeguarding. For free online Safeguarding Level 1: <https://accreditation-uk.english.britishcouncil.org/>
- Requiring that any evidence or reasonable suspicion that a young person has or is experiencing harm during the delivery of **HS&VB's** services is reported to us
- Acting promptly and professionally to any concerns and sharing information as appropriate
- Referring any reported incidents to statutory authorities as appropriate
- Implementing this policy in conjunction with health and safety guidelines
- Ensuring that all affected parties are aware of this policy and have access to copies
- Regularly reviewing our policy and designating a Safeguarding Co-ordinator

We require you to inform the **HS&VB** Safeguarding Co-ordinator if:

- You detect any deterioration in the child's general well being
- You notice any significant physical and behavioural changes
- You suspect that an adult is a threat to a child in some way
- A child makes any comment that gives cause for concern

Please make a note of what you have observed, what, if anything was said and who was present (facts not opinions please) and give this in writing to the Safeguarding Co-ordinator who will take appropriate actions. This may involve external agencies and contacting parents/guardians.

HS&VB upholds confidentiality at all times by:

- Storing confidential information in a locked filing system at the company registered office,
- Sharing information about children, young people, staff, volunteers and families on a clearly identified and agreed need to know basis.

The HS&VB Safeguarding Coordinator is Jennie Parsons

I understand and confirm that I agree to comply with all the safeguarding requirements detailed above:

Signature.....

Date.....

January 2020