



Bacup Natural History Society

24 Yorkshire Street Bacup Lancashire OL13 9AE

Registered Charity Number 1045767

Email: bacupnatural@gmail.com

Bacup Natural History Society Children- Vulnerable Adult Safeguarding Policy

Bacup Natural History Society abides by the duty of care to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and young people and is committed to safeguarding practice that reflects statutory responsibilities, government guidance and complies with best practice requirements.

We recognise the welfare of children is paramount in all the work we do and in all the decisions we take.

All children, regardless of age, disability, gender reassignment, race, religion or belief, sex, or sexual orientation has an equal right to protection from all types of harm or abuse.

Some children are additionally vulnerable because of the impact of previous experiences, their level of dependency, communication needs or other issues.

Working in partnership with children, young people, their parents, carers and other agencies is essential in promoting young people's welfare.

Purpose:

Bacup Natural History Society will:

- Protect children and vulnerable adults who receive Bacup Natural History Society services from harm. This includes the children of adults who use our services.
- Provide staff and volunteers, as well as children and young people and their families, with the overarching principles that guide our approach to child protection.

This policy applies to anyone working on behalf of Bacup Natural History Society including the board of trustees, volunteers, sessional workers, agency staff and students. Failure to comply with the policy and related procedures will be addressed without delay and may ultimately result in dismissal/exclusion from the organisation.

Definitions:

The Children Act 1989 definition of a child is: anyone who has not yet reached their 18th birthday, even if they are living independently, are a member of the armed forces or is in hospital.

Adult at Risk:

An adult who has needs for care and support (whether the authority is meeting any of those needs), is experiencing, or is at risk of, abuse or neglect, and as a result of those needs is unable to protect himself or herself against the abuse or neglect or the risk of it.

Child and Adult Abuse: Children and adults may be vulnerable to neglect and abuse or exploitation from within their family and from individuals they come across in their daily lives. There are 4 main categories of abuse, which are: sexual, physical, emotional abuse, and neglect. It is important to be aware of more specific types of abuse that fall within these categories, they are:

- Bullying and cyberbullying
- Child sexual exploitation
- Child Criminal exploitation
- Child trafficking
- Domestic abuse
- Female genital mutilation
- Grooming
- Historical abuse
- Online abuse

Safeguarding children:

Safeguarding children is defined in Working Together to Safeguard Children 2018 as:

- 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 to have the best outcomes.

Legal Framework:

This policy has been drawn up on the basis of legislation, policy and guidance that seeks to protect children in England. A summary of the key legislation is available from [nspcc.org.uk/learning](https://www.nspcc.org.uk/learning).

The Prevent duty

Some organisations in England, Scotland and Wales have a duty, as a specified authority under section 26 of the Counterterrorism and Security Act 2015, to identify vulnerable children and young people and prevent them from being drawn into terrorism. This is known as the Prevent duty. These organisations include:

- Schools
- Registered childcare providers
- Local authorities
- Police
- Prisons and probation services
- NHS trusts and foundations.
- Other organisations may also have Prevent duties if they perform delegated local authority functions.

Children can be exposed to different views and receive information from various sources. Some of these views may be considered radical or extreme.

Radicalisation is the process through which a person comes to support or be involved in extremist ideologies. It can result in a person becoming drawn into terrorism and is in itself a form of harm.

Extremism is vocal or active opposition to fundamental British values, including democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty and mutual respect and tolerance of different faiths and beliefs.

Training and Awareness:

Bacup Natural History Society will ensure an appropriate level of safeguarding training is available to its Trustees, Volunteers and any relevant persons linked to the organisation who requires it (e.g. contractors).

For all employees who are working or volunteering with children, this requires them as a minimum to have awareness training that enables them to:

- Understand what safeguarding is and their role in safeguarding children.
- Recognise a child potentially in need of safeguarding and take action.
- Understand how to report a safeguarding Alert.

- Understand dignity and respect when working with children.
- Have knowledge of the Safeguarding Children Policy.

Confidentiality and Information Sharing:

Bacup Natural History Society expects all volunteers and trustees to maintain confidentiality. Information will only be shared in line with the General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR) and Data Protection.

However, information should be shared with the Local Authority if a child is deemed to be at risk of harm or contact the police if they are in immediate danger, or a crime has been committed. For further guidance on information sharing and safeguarding see Bacup Natural History Society Confidentiality and Information Sharing policy.

Recording and Record Keeping:

A written record must be kept about any concern regarding an adult with safeguarding needs. This must include details of the person involved, the nature of the concern and the actions taken, decision made and why they were made.

All records must be signed and dated. All records must be securely and confidentially stored in line with General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR). Bacup Natural History Society.

Safe Recruitment & Selection:

Bacup Natural History Society is committed to safe employment and safe recruitment practices, that reduce the risk of harm to children from people unsuitable to work with them or have contact with them.

Bacup Natural History Society has policies and procedures that cover the recruitment of all Trustees, employees and volunteers. [name of safe recruitment and selection procedures and code of conduct].

Social Media:

All employees and volunteers should be aware of Bacup Natural History Society social media policy and procedures Bacup Natural History Society social media policy and procedures and the code of conduct for behaviour towards the children we support.

Use of Mobile Phones and other Digital Technology:

All employees, trustees and volunteers should be aware of Bacup Natural History Society policy and procedures regarding the use of mobile phones and any digital technology and understand that it is unlawful to photograph children and young people without the explicit consent of the person with parental responsibilities. Bacup Natural History Society Mobile Phone and Digital Technology Policy.

Making an alert to the Local Authority Safeguarding Adults Enquiry Team or to children’s social care

An ‘alert’ is a response to a concern, where an individual believes that a vulnerable adult may be at risk of harm or abuse. Alerts should be raised as soon as abuse or neglect is witnessed or suspected. This should always be the case if the adult remains in or is about to return to the place where the suspected/alleged abuse occurred, and the alleged abuser is likely to have access to the adult or others who might be at risk. This can be done directly to the Safeguarding team or out of hours service or via whistleblowing procedures where necessary.

The referrer is not expected to prove abuse has happened but to provide information based on the disclosure from the vulnerable adult. All staff have a duty of care in terms of challenging poor practice and escalating their concerns appropriately.

Making a safeguarding referral for a child or young person at risk of significant harm.

Information required to raise the alert / referral
Who the alleged victim is
Who the alleged perpetrator is (if known)
What has happened
When abuse has happened
Where abuse has happened
How often is it happening
Who witnessed it

NB:

A referral should still be made even if some of this information is missing

Contact Numbers	
Safeguarding Adults Team between 9am - 5pm	0300 123 6721
Safeguarding children’s Team between 9am - 5pm	0300 123 6720
Out of hours	0300 123 6722
In an emergency if a person is at risk of serious harm or needs immediate medical attention	999
Police Public Protection Unit	101 or 0845 125 35 45
Regional Prevent Coordinator NHS Lancashire Area Team	01138 248 938

An alert can also be made on line by completing an electronic alert form which can be found on the Lancashire Safeguarding Adults Board [website](#):

Important Contacts: Bacup Natural History Society

Trustee for Safeguarding

Name: Wendy Ann Watters

Email address: bacupnatural@gmail.com

Telephone number: 07727015749

Senior Lead for Safeguarding

Name: Christine Ormrod

Email address c_ormrod@hotmail.com

Telephone number 07966791938

All Trustees, Volunteers

Review of Policy: This document will be reviewed in 2024 or before this date in the event of national updates.

This Safeguarding Policy is based on the Lancashire Safeguarding Adults Board procedures and Lancashire Safeguarding Children's Board procedures. Charity trustees are responsible for ensuring that those benefiting from, or working with, their charity, are not harmed in any way through contact with it. The Charity Commission for England and Wales provides guidance on charity compliance which should be followed, for further information go to The Charity Commission.

Key trustees and volunteers involved in the delivery of the projects will undertake annual safeguarding training using Lancashire County Council learning portal

https://lancashire.melearning.university/course_centre to embed the policy in the organisation.

All trustees and volunteers will have an internal training session on safeguarding from the safeguarding lead.