

AXMINSTER WOODTURNERS CLUB Safeguarding Policy

(Adapted from the AWGB Safeguarding Policy, February 2019)

The designated safeguarding officer is: Club Chairperson

The alternative safeguarding officer is: Club Secretary

We recognise that the welfare of children and vulnerable adults is paramount and that we have a duty of care when they are in our charge. We will do everything we can to provide a safe and caring environment whilst they attend our activities. To help ensure this, all members under 18 years of age must be accompanied by a parent or guardian at club meetings and all club related activities. Vulnerable adults must be accompanied by a carer if not completely independent.

All members of the Club required to:-

- Treat all children and vulnerable adults with respect and celebrate their achievements
- Respond to concerns and allegations appropriately
- Adopt the Association 'Members' Guidelines' given below.

When there are concerns about the welfare of any child or vulnerable adult all adults in our organisation are expected to share them with the designated safeguarding officer who should contact the relevant authorities outlined in the "Members' Guidelines". The member registering the concern may also contact the relevant authorities.

The designated safeguarding officer is responsible for:

- Monitoring and recording concerns
- Ensuring referrals to social services are made without delay
- Liaising with other agencies

Axminster Woodturners Club, through confirming this Safeguarding Policy Document, has indicated its determination to ensure that children, young people and vulnerable adults can participate in Club Activities with their safety and welfare being of paramount importance.

Signed:

Signed:

Chairman

Secretary

Date

Date

Safeguarding Policy – Members' Guidelines

As members of the above association, you need to be aware of the concept of child abuse and abuse of vulnerable adults and have some background information to help to adopt good practice when working with young people and vulnerable adults.

Always remember - it is not your responsibility to decide if abuse has taken place. However, it is your responsibility to act upon these concerns.

Abuse is a powerful and emotive term and is used to describe ways in which children or vulnerable adults may be harmed, usually by adults and often by those they know and trust. There are five main areas of abuse of which you should be aware:

Emotional Abuse - occurs when adults persistently fail to show children due care, love or affection. Where a child may be subjected to unrealistic pressure and constantly shouted at and given responsibility for which they are not yet ready.

Physical Abuse - occurs when adults, or even children, deliberately inflict injuries on a child or vulnerable adult, or knowingly do not prevent such injuries.

Bullying - occurs when repeated aggressive, verbal, psychological or physical contact by an individual or group. It can include physical, verbal, emotional, racist and sexual abuse, comments and gestures.

Neglect - this occurs when a child's basic needs for food, warmth and care are not met, including failure to prevent a child from exposure to any kind of danger.

Sexual abuse - both girls and boys can be sexually abused by adults, who use children to meet their own sexual needs and desires either through participation or forced observation.

Safeguarding - the welfare of children, young people and vulnerable adults is paramount. The Association of Woodturners of Great Britain has a moral obligation and legal responsibility to provide the highest possible standard of care when we welcome young people and vulnerable adults into our Branches and Clubs.

Guidelines for good practice for the AWGB

Everyone should be aware that as a general rule, the supervising adult should not:

- Spend excessive amounts of time alone with children or vulnerable adults away from others.
- Take children alone on car journeys, however short, without parental approval.
- Take children to your home, without parental approval.
- Help children or vulnerable adults with their clothing or get changed - encourage parents or carers to do this.

You should NEVER:

- Engage in inappropriate physical contact, including horseplay.
- Share a room with a child or vulnerable adult.
- Permit children to use unacceptable or explicit language unchallenged.
- Make sexually suggestive comments to a child or vulnerable adult, even in fun.
- Agree to meet a child or vulnerable adult on your own, outside the context of normal duties.
- Allow allegations made by a child or vulnerable adult to go unchallenged, unrecorded or not acted upon.

Key principles of good practice for the AWGB

- Adopting these principles will help you to create an environment in which:

- Children and vulnerable adults are listened to, given a sense of belonging and kept safe.
- Volunteers who work with children and young people are supported and protected.
- Parents are supported and encouraged.

Safe environment - this will be done by:

- Providing an adequate level of supervision.
- Keeping records of attendances, complaints and accidents.
- Producing procedures for dealing with suspicions.
- Identifying a person in charge of safeguarding.
- Protecting all club members, adults and children.
- Understanding the child/vulnerable adult's right to self-protection.

Dealing with concerns - this will be done by:

- Listening but not leading the child / vulnerable adult.
- Observing changes in behaviour.
- Believing - but do not promise confidentiality.
- Reassuring - be sensitive to situation.
- Acting immediately and explaining to child what you are going to do.
- Recording.
- Getting support
- Referring to right body.
- Recording allegations or suspicion of abuse

Please remember if an incident occurs - the basic information needed is as follows:

- Name of child or vulnerable adult, age (of child), telephone number and address.
- Parent/carer name.
- Additional Factors.
- Are you recording the report based on your concerns or passing on the concerns of someone else? Please detail as clearly as possible.
- What has prompted the concerns and include date, times of any specific incidents. Is there any physical/behavioural or indirect signs? Has the child or vulnerable adult been spoken to and if so what was said. Have the parents/carers been contacted and if so, what was said. Has anyone been alleged to be the abuser? If so record details. Has anyone else been consulted? If so record details.

POINTS OF CONTACT

Devon Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH)

Tel. 0345 155 1071

email mashsecure@devon.gov.uk

Childline - 24 hours 0800 1111

NSPCC - 24 hours 0800 800500

Children's Legal Centre - 0207 3596251