

what is...

B3SDA

BURY THIRD SECTOR
DEVELOPMENT AGENCY

Safeguarding children & young people?

Factsheet 1

Dec 08

from the top

Safeguarding children and young people means protecting them from potential sources of harm and ensuring their well-being. All children and young people have the right to be safe and **everyone** is responsible for making that happen.

As an organisation working with children and young people you will want to:

- Provide safe places where children can have fun, learn and achieve;
- Know what to do if you are concerned about a child;
- Reassure parents and carers that their children's welfare is important;
- Give your workers confidence, through by providing clear guidelines of how to protect both themselves and the children in their care.

do we have to do it?

The short answer is yes! We all need to play our part in keeping children safe.

The NSPCC says that *"it is estimated that at least two children in the UK are killed each week by their parents or carers. Thousands more suffer serious harm..."*

There are also legal reasons for doing it. Following the death of 8-year old Victoria Climbié in 2000, major changes were made to

key government legislation regarding child protection, which resulted in the formation of the **'Every Child Matters - Change for Children'** programme. The aim was and still is to help everyone work together *better*, and highlighted **'five outcomes'** that are most important to children to ensure their welfare.

FIVE OUTCOMES EVERY CHILD MATTERS

1. **Be healthy**
2. **Stay safe**
3. **Enjoy & achieve**
4. **Make a positive contribution**
5. **Achieve economic well-being**

It is now also the requirement of many funding bodies, the Charity commission and insurance companies that all voluntary sector groups working with children have effective safeguarding in place for their organisation.

the next step...

You need to develop a good safeguarding structure with relevant policies, procedures and guidelines that will work for your group or organisation. The checklist **overleaf** is designed to help you assess your needs and make a plan of action.

SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN CHECKLIST

1. CHILD PROTECTION:

- Written Policy & Procedures - Bury Safeguarding Children Board recommend:
 - *Information on government legislation relating to children's rights*
 - *Information and indicators about different kinds of abuse*
 - *Information about levels of need and confidentiality issues*
 - *How to respond to concerns*
- A named or 'designated' person within, or acting on behalf of, your group
- Training for all volunteers and staff

2. SAFE RECRUITMENT AND STAFFING:

- Guidelines for recruitment and application
- Procedures for carrying out interviews and CRB checks
- Procedures for supervising volunteers including a Code of Conduct

3. HEALTH AND SAFETY:

- First aid provision and accident procedures
- Relevant insurance cover
- Risk assessment procedures including supervision ratios and parental consent
- Safe premises including fire safety

4. EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES GUIDELINES:

- Statement and guidelines of application
- Process for complaints and whistleblowing

5. PROMOTION AND PARTNERSHIP:

- Publicising policies and procedures
- Involving service users to agree on Code of Behaviour
- Involving children, young people and families in reviewing activities



Bury Business Centre
Unit 23 Kay Street, Bury
BL9 6BU
T: 0191 797 1968
E: adam@b3sda.org.uk

We can give support on how to implement an effective Safeguarding structure into your organisation. If you would like more info please get in touch.