



Child Protection Policy for Parents and Carers

Reach Outdoors

'Live for Adventure'

Introduction

At Reach Outdoors we strive to ensure that all pupils remain safe and free from harm. We are committed to playing a full and active part in the multi-agency response to child protection concerns. Additionally, our establishment has a legal duty to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and to have a child protection policy to meet Department for Education and Department of Health requirements.

Through their day to day contact with pupils, and direct work with families, our staff have a crucial role to play in noticing indicators of possible abuse or neglect. Parents should be aware therefore that where it appears to a member of staff that a child may have been harmed, Reach Outdoors is legally required, as part of the local child protection procedures to report their concern to Children's Social Care immediately. To avoid any misunderstandings therefore, parents of children who sustain accidental injuries which result in cuts/bruises/fractures should inform Reach Outdoors without delay.

Principles

- Children have a right to be safe.
- Parents have a right to be informed.
- Children are best protected when parents and education provider can work together.

Partnership

Reach Outdoors will inform parents of any concerns about their children (providing it does not compromise the individuals safety) and will help and support them as necessary.

Prevention

Reach Outdoors will take positive action to prevent children suffering abuse and neglect through the development of an open culture that informs children of their rights and encourages them to speak about any concerns.

Any concerns should be communicated to an instructor or the Designated Safeguarding Lead or their deputy.

Designated Safeguarding Lead: Richard Hanbury rich@reach-outdoors.com

Deputy Safeguarding Lead: Rachel Mayhew-Edwards rachel@reach-outdoors.com

Responding to Concerns

Reach Outdoors will refer all allegations or concerns that a child has been or is likely to be abused or neglected to Social Care within the Children's Services Department. Reach Outdoors will also consult with other agencies when it has concerns that a child may have been abused or neglected. Reach Outdoors will discuss with parents any concerns they have about children. Parents will be kept informed of what is happening, however if it is felt that to do so would compromise the safety of the child they will seek advice from Children's Services or the Police and act on their direction.

Child/Child Abuse

Physical and emotional abuse of children by other children will be dealt with through Reach Outdoors anti-bullying policy. Parents will be kept informed. All concerns about possible sexual abuse will be referred to Children's Social Care.

Confidentiality

Information and records about children on a Child Protection Plan will be given only to those people who need it and will be kept strictly confidential by them. However, if we were to receive information from another party about the possible abuse of a child then we would be duty bound to pass this on to other relevant agencies.

A full copy of the Reach Outdoors Safeguarding Policy is also available on the Reach Outdoors website.