



Stour Valley Canoe Club

Safeguarding Policy

Updated: October 2022

Stour Valley Canoe Club is fully committed to safeguarding the well-being of all its members and those who come along to the club for come-and-try sessions. All members are expected to show respect and understanding for the rights, safety and welfare of others and to conduct themselves in a way that reflects the principles and policies of the club. Taking part in paddlesport should be a positive and enjoyable part of children's lives. To achieve this policy the Club's objectives regarding child protection are:

- Club coaches and officials will follow the BC Coaches & Officials Code of Conduct.
- All club coaches, helpers and officials working with young people will read and adhere to the BC Safeguarding Policies. The club will follow the guidance of the policies in the event of any concerns or allegations.

(Note: the BC Policy documents can be found here [SPC-P1](#) and [SPC-P6](#) , there are also copies held at the club).

- The Club will ensure that anyone working with young people at the club has undertaken an appropriate screening process. (This will include a DBS Barred List check).
- The Club will obtain written medical details of young paddlers where this is appropriate and this information will be made known to club coaches.
- The Club will only use qualified/updated coaches – unqualified coaches can only work alongside a qualified coach.
- Coaches are not allowed to offer one to one coaching for young paddlers outside of the club.
- Young people under the age of 18 are not allowed to travel alone where transport is offered on club trips.
- Under 18s will not be contacted by club members directly, it will be through parents/ carers.
- The person whose role it is to deal with any issues concerning Child Protection is Welfare Officer (Lucy Sims). This person will have attended appropriate training courses / Safeguarding workshops.
- Anyone with concerns about a child or vulnerable adult abuse should contact the Welfare Officer (Lucy Sims). If the Welfare Officer is not available the contact is the Club Secretary (Anne Newlin).
- The Club will adopt and annually review its Health and Safety policies. This will be undertaken by the Club's Committee or by person/persons appointed by the Committee.
- Stour Valley Canoe Club is essentially a family club and parents and carers are encouraged to accompany and support their children at Club events and trips. Where children are not accompanied, the Club will require a consent form and Nominated Responsible Adult form, depending on age, to be completed before any child may participate. These forms and rules are available on the website under Policy and Legal – Trips Policy. [Policy link.](#)
- On Club normal sessions and training, children may be under the direct control of a coach and out of sight of parents or carers. The club will require generalised consent for these activities.

