

# MOOR LANE YOUTH CLUB SAFEGUARDING ONLINE

The purpose of this policy statement is to:

- ensure the safety and wellbeing of children and young people is paramount when adults, young people or children are using the internet, social media or mobile devices in the provision of activities run by the Moor Lane Youth Club. Children and young people should never experience abuse of any kind.
- provide staff and volunteers with the overarching principles that guide our approach to online safety as described in this policy. The policy statement applies to all staff, volunteers, students, trustees or anyone involved in the Moor Lane Youth Club activities.
- ensure that, as an organisation, we operate in line with our values and within the law in terms of how we use online devices.

We recognise that:

- We have a responsibility to help keep children and young people safe online.
- All children and young people have the right to equal protection from all types of harm or abuse.
- We will seek to keep children and young people safe by:
  - appointing an online safety coordinator, the host of online activity carried out by Moor Lane Youth Club.
  - providing clear and specific directions to staff and volunteers on how to behave appropriately online.
  - supporting and encouraging the young people using our service to use the internet, social media and mobile phones in a way that keeps them safe and shows respect for others.
  - supporting and encouraging parents and carers to do what they can to keep their children safe online.
  - responding appropriately to any incidents of inappropriate online behaviour, whether by an adult or a child/young person

- ensuring personal information about the adults and children who are involved in our organisation is held securely and shared only as appropriate.
- ensuring that images of children, young people and families may only be used after their written permission has been obtained, and only for the purpose for which consent has been given
- having clear and robust safeguarding procedures in place for responding to abuse as described in our Moor Lane Youth Club Safeguarding Policy (including online abuse).
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#### **PRACTICAL STEPS TO ENSURE SAFETY OF YOUNG PEOPLE WHEN ACCESSING ACTIVITIES ONLINE:**

- We have a duty to ensure that all children, young people and adults involved in our organisation are protected from potential harm online.
- Parents will be asked to give assent for appropriate online activities, such as games or quizzes for educational or personal development.
- The host will initially have microphones turned off when participants join the meeting.
- The host is in control of who can control the screen.
- Participants may use the chat option. However, the host will be able to turn off chat if it becomes appropriate to do so, to prevent any possible abuse or discomfort to participants.
- The host will be in charge of muting and unmuting all participants, including video screens.
- The host will be conscious of background environments and others in the room, to ensure this is appropriate.
- Use may be made of interactive tools to improve engagement.
- Users will be reminded about respecting others and using the chat box for comment and,
- Users will be expected to dress and talk appropriately.