



**ESSEX & SUFFOLK GLIDING CLUB LIMITED
CHILD PROTECTION POLICY**

This is the child protection policy for Essex & Suffolk Gliding Club

It aims to:

- Establish clear lines of communication for any child protection issue.
- Avoid confusion for instructors, officials, the club and volunteers.

There is a considerable body of legislation, government guidance and standards designed to ensure that children are safeguarded from harm. These include:

- *Children Act 1989*
- *Children Act 2004*
- *Protection of Children Act 1999*
- *Human Rights Act 1998*
- *UN Convention on Rights of the Child*
- *Sexual Offences Act 2003*
- *Working Together to Safeguard Children 2010* document by the Department for Children, Schools and Families
- *Every Child Matters green paper*

Everyone who works with or around children, young people and vulnerable adults needs to be aware of the laws that aim to protect children from harm.

Should you have any queries relating to this policy, please contact any of the following:

Club Child Protection Officer: George Green, tel 07917 414 723

BGA Child Protection Leader: Karon Matton, tel 07880 547 176

email karon@gliding.co.uk

BGA Office

email office@gliding.co.uk

Reference should also be made to <https://members.gliding.co.uk/club-development/child-protection/>

The policy is supported by the BGA Child Protection policy and set of procedures as set out in the BGA document *Child Protection Policy and Procedures* which is available from the club on request and can be downloaded from the BGA website.

If you should have any concerns about the immediate safety of a child or vulnerable adult, refer to sections 8-10 of the BGA Child Protection Policy and Procedures, but you should not delay; Children's Services and Police are always available.

Policy Statement

Essex & Suffolk Gliding Club Duty of Care

The Essex & Suffolk Gliding Club recognises that sport can and does have a very powerful and positive influence on young people. Not only can it provide opportunities for enjoyment and achievement; it can also develop valuable qualities such as self-esteem, leadership and teamwork. These positive effects can only take place if sport is in the right hands – in the hands of those who place the welfare of all young people first and adopt practices that support, protect and empower them.

Most youngsters happily and safely participate in sport under the watchful and concerned care of dedicated instructors and club members. However, the reality is also that abuse does take place in all sports and some cases have led to convictions. Every adult has a legal and moral responsibility to protect young people and disabled adults in sport from abuse.

The Essex & Suffolk Gliding Club recognises that we have a duty of care towards young and vulnerable participants and can help to protect them from abuse.

The Essex & Suffolk Gliding Club recognises that for Child Protection purposes, a child refers to any person under the age of 18.

Principles

The Essex & Suffolk Gliding Club recognises that:

- The welfare of young people and vulnerable adults is the primary concern.
- All young people whatever their age, culture, disability, gender, language, racial origin, religious belief and/or sexual identity have the right to protection from abuse.
- It is the responsibility of the child protection experts to determine whether or not abuse has taken place but it is everyone's responsibility to report any concerns.
- All incidents of suspicious poor practice and allegations should be taken seriously and responded to swiftly and appropriately.

Summary of Partnership Responsibilities

The Essex & Suffolk Gliding Club

- Accepts the moral and legal responsibility to implement procedures to provide a duty of care for young people, safeguard their wellbeing and protect them from abuse.
- Respects and promotes the rights, wishes and feelings of young people and disabled adults.
- Requires staff and members to adopt and abide by this Child Protection Policy and Good Practice Guidelines. Employed staff should abide by The Essex & Suffolk Gliding Club guidelines.
- Responds to allegations appropriately and implement the appropriate disciplinary and appeals procedures.

This policy was adopted at a meeting of The Essex & Suffolk Gliding Club Limited, held on 21st September 2016

Signed on behalf of the Management Committee

Bob Godden

Role of signatory (e.g. Chairman etc)

Chairman