

Stewarton Bands Support Group

Child Protection Policy

This policy recognises that most of the activities are organised by the schools or East Ayrshire Council Education Department and we simply assist in providing financial support and volunteers. The school/EAC policy will apply in these circumstances and checks on volunteers will be carried out by the school/EAC. In the event that an activity which involves children is not organised in this way our policy will apply. The policy is set out below.

It is the policy of the Stewarton Band Support Group (SBSG) to ensure that all participants in workshops, projects and other SBSG activities are protected from physical, sexual and emotional harm.

In order to achieve these safeguards, SBSG requires that all tutors and other staff working with children and young people follow the Code of Good Practice set out below and have passed through the disclosure process with the CRBS to be replaced in November 2010 by the PVG Scotland Act 2007 scheme.

Code of Good Practice

As an adult working with children and young people for SBSG

You should:

- Treat all children and young people with respect
- Provide a good example of acceptable behaviour
- Always plan activities which involve more than one person being present, or ensure that other adults are within sight or hearing wherever possible
- Respect everyone's right to privacy
- Be available to listen to the concerns of young participants, and to refer them to other sources of help where appropriate
- Try to ensure that your actions cannot be misunderstood or cause offence
- Encourage young participants to feel comfortable enough to point out attitudes and behaviour they do not like
- Show understanding when dealing with sensitive issues and recognise that caution is required when discussing such issues
- Be aware that even caring physical contact with a child or young person can be misinterpreted

You should not:

- Permit abusive behaviour e.g. bullying, taunting, racist behaviour
- Have inappropriate physical or verbal contact with children and young people
- Jump to conclusions about others without first checking facts
- Allow yourself to be drawn into inappropriate attention seeking behaviour, such as crushes or tantrums
- Show favouritism to an individual
- Exaggerate or trivialise any child abuse issues
- Make suggestive remarks or actions, even in jest
- Deliberately place yourself or others in potentially compromising situations
- Believe it could never happen to me

What to do:

If you have any reason to suspect a child or young person attending a SBSG activity is being abused:

- Inform another member of the SBSG **and** inform a member of the SBSG committee,
- Make a written record of all details of the facts known to you as soon as possible, and give a copy to the SBSG committee member to whom you have spoken.

If a child or young person tells you about abuse by someone else:

- Stay calm, do not be shocked, and try to act normally
- Allow the individual to speak freely, without interruption, but do not question them or attempt to investigate yourself
- Offer support and reassurance; assure them that you believe what they say
- Explain that you cannot keep it a secret and that you will speak to a member of SBSG committee about it. Never promise a child that you will keep it a secret
- Report the matter as detailed above

If you receive an allegation of abuse about any co-worker, or about yourself:

- Immediately inform a member of the SBSG committee and keep a written record of all the facts as you know them
- Try to ensure that no one is placed in a position which could lead to further compromise

IN ALL CASES YOU MUST REFER THE MATTER TO A MEMBER OF THE SBSG COMMITTEE – DO NOT TRY TO DEAL WITH ANY POSSIBLE CASES OF ABUSE ON YOUR OWN.

Contact Details:

Child Protection Officer:- Peter Ronald (SBSG Chair): 07917 841725

Parent Liaison: Margaret Parker (Secretary) : 07855 706617

Stewarton Academy Mrs Hegarty (Head teacher) : 01560 482342

Updated: 23 July 2018

Appendix

Current PVG holders for SBSG

Peter Ronald
Margaret Parker
Shona MacLaughlin
Katrina Steedman
Silvia Flauger
Rebecca Bingham