

MIDLAND GLIDING CLUB CHILD PROTECTION POLICY



It aims to:

- Establish clear lines of communication for any child protection issue.
- Avoid confusion for instructors, officials, clubs 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

The statutory inquiry into the death of Victoria Climbié highlighted the lack of priority status given to safeguarding. The Government's responses to these findings included the 'Every Child Matters' green paper and the 2004 Children Act.

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 Lead	Tel: 07500 472778
Club Child Protection Deputy	Tel: 07739 466564
BGA Child Protection Lead	Tel: 07880 547 176
BGA Office	Tel: 0116 253 1051

The policy is underpinned by the BGA Child Protection policy and set of procedures as laid out in the BGA document *Child Protection Policy and Procedures*.

If you should have any concerns about the immediate safety of a child or vulnerable adult, refer to sections 9-11 of the above document, but you should not delay; Children's Services and Police are always available.

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Policy Statement

Midland Gliding Club Duty of Care

The Midland 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 sport and in some cases, members have been convicted. Every adult has a legal and moral responsibility to protect young people and disabled adults in sport from abuse.

The Midland Gliding Club recognises that we have a duty of care towards young and vulnerable participants and can help to protect them from abuse. (From *Guidelines for Governing Bodies of Sport and Local Authorities*, Sports Coach UK (NCF), NSPCC.)

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

Principles

Midland 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.
- All professional course instructors employed by the MGC are required to have a DBS check completed. All other full cat and assistant cat instructors are requested to have a DBS check done. Where an instructor chooses not to undertake a DBS check, they must not fly on a regular basis *with any individual young person under the age of 18*.

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Summary of Partnership Responsibilities

The Midland 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.
- Recruits, trains, and supervises its employees and volunteers to adopt best practice to safeguard and protect young people from abuse and themselves against false allegations.
- Requires staff and members to adopt and abide by this Child Protection Policy and Good Practice Guidelines. Employed staff shall abide by Midland Gliding Club guidelines.
- Responds to allegations appropriately and will implement the appropriate disciplinary and appeals procedures.
- Shall make available from the club office and via the club website the BGA document, Child Protection Policy and Procedures.
- Shall have appointed at all times a CPO and Deputy. Any club member shall be at liberty to refer any potential or perceived child protection issues to these individuals, or to any employee or committee member at any time, and it shall be acted upon.
- Any club member becoming aware of a serious allegation of a criminal nature shall report the matter immediately to the police; this policy shall not override direct reporting.
- Shall keep a written record of all reported child protection issues. Reported issues shall be recorded within 24hrs along with a record of the initial action taken.

It is intended that all employees and volunteers working with children, young people and vulnerable adults will receive training to assist them in the recognition of abuse; the referral process; sensible working practices; and to identify 'appointed persons' within the BGA and at club level, whom staff can contact about child protection issues.

The **CPO Lead Officer** is **Hazel Turner** contact phone **07500 472778**

The **CPO Deputy Officer** is **Helen Johnson** contact phone **07739 466564**

This policy was adopted at a meeting of Midland Gliding Club, held on 6 August 2010 and updated 11 February 2022

Signed on behalf of the Management Committee

Role of signatory (e.g. Chairman etc)

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Jon Hall'.

Chairman