

## Welfare, Safeguarding and Child Protection

## Policy Statement 2023

In the context of this document, 'child' refers to any young person under the age of 18 as defined in the Children Act 1989. In this document and in day to day communications the terms 'children' and 'young people' are both used, recognising that older teenagers may prefer not to be referred to as 'children' although they are still children in the eyes of the law.

The Burnham Sailing Club takes seriously its responsibility to protect and safeguard the welfare of children and young people in its care. "The welfare of the child is paramount" (Children Act 1989).

The BSC is committed to safeguarding children from physical, sexual or emotional harm, neglect or bullying. We recognise that the safety, welfare and needs of the child are paramount and that all children, irrespective of age, disability, race, religion or belief, sex, sexual or gender identity or social status, have a right to protection from discrimination and abuse.

The child's experience of the sport is our priority. We aim to create a safe and welcoming environment, both on and off the water, where children can have fun and develop their skills and confidence. We will treat all children with respect, celebrate their achievements and listen to their views and experiences.

The BSC is committed to having a formal welfare, safeguarding and child protection policy which is reviewed annually by the Club's Committee.

## THE SAFEGUARDING WELFARE OFFICER IS: MRS. KÄREN HARDEN

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The full Welfare, Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy and Guidance is available in the documents section on the BSC Website