



Lincolnshire Council for Voluntary Youth Services Child Protection Policy

It is the policy of Lincolnshire Council for Voluntary Youth Services (LCVYS) to champion the protection of children and young people within society as a whole, within its own activities and within its member groups. LCVYS fully accepts, endorses and will implement the principle enshrined in the Children Act 1989 that the welfare of the child is paramount.

This policy supports and complements the Lincolnshire Safeguarding Children Board Code of Practice. This can only be accessed through the following website: www.lincolnshire.gov.uk

LCVYS will work with statutory bodies, voluntary agencies and other bodies to promote the safety and well-being of children and young people.

LCVYS is committed to acting promptly whenever a concern is raised about a child or young person, or about the behaviour of an adult, and will work with the appropriate statutory bodies when an investigation into child abuse is necessary.

LCVYS recognises the vulnerability of young people and is committed to responding to issues and legislation affecting the safety and protection of children and young people, both on behalf of its members and with the services it provides directly to children and young people.

LCVYS has a designated Child Protection Co-ordinator, who is a Trustee and approved by the Trustees.

LCVYS will seek to implement these principals by:

Within Its' Member Groups:

- Seeking to foster and encourage best practice
- Requiring all member groups to have an appropriate child protection policy
- By signposting appropriate training opportunities

The voice of the voluntary Youth Sector



Lincolnshire Council for Voluntary Youth Services

Within Its' Own Activities

- Seek to comply with the Home Office publication *Safe from Harm (1993)*
- Ensuring that everyone (paid or volunteer) acting its name who may have any contact with children or young people has:
 - A job description describing areas of responsibility and lines of accountability
 - Gone through a process of appointment that involves:
 - Application
 - Interview
 - Taking up references
 - Declaration of criminal record
 - Enhanced CRB check
 - Is trained in appropriate good practice
 - Receives appropriate supervision
 - Knows what to do in case of concern or suspicion, allegation or disclosure of abuse.
- In all situations where LCVYS works directly with children or young people, information will be available, either in poster, leaflet or other form, advertising Childline or similar direct access reporting method for children or young people's use.

The revised government guidance on the Children Act 1989, *Working Together to Safeguard Children (1999)*, states:

If someone believes that a child may be suffering, or may be at risk of suffering significant harm, then s/he should always refer his or her concerns to the local social services department

LCVYS accepts this recommendation completely, and requires everyone acting in its name to comply, reporting directly to the local authority Children's Services Department in cases of Allegation or Disclosure of abuse.

LCVYS does not expect anyone acting in its name to investigate accusations, conduct interviews or similarly compromise possible police/children's services action. All workers are, however, to write notes whilst the memory is fresh, and report to the appropriate agency, then informing the LCVYS Child Protection Co-ordinator.

The voice of the voluntary Youth Sector

**Lincolnshire Council For Voluntary Youth Services
Registered Charity Number: 1040506**



Lincolnshire Council for Voluntary Youth Services

If anyone working on behalf of LCVYS observes or hears evidence, and they are not sure if it indicates abuse or not, they should NOT ignore it. They should:

- Not wait for someone else to accept responsibility.
- Make an incident recording, detailing what it is which caused concern.
- Speak to their immediate line manager, the Child Protection Co-ordinator, or an appropriate person within an external Child Protection agency (such as Children's Services)

The Lincolnshire Council for Voluntary Youth Services is committed to:

- Ensuring that all members of staff undergo appropriate appointment procedures, supervision and training
- Taking into account in all its considerations and activities, the interests and well-being of children and young people
- Respecting the rights, wishes, beliefs, ethnic origin, feelings and sexual identity of the children and young people with whom it is working
- Taking all reasonable practicable steps to protect children and young people from abuse
- Promoting the welfare of children and young people and their protection within a relationship of trust.

It is the responsibility of all adults to ensure that:

- Their behaviour is appropriate at all times
- They observe the rules established for the safety and security of young people
- They follow the procedures following suspicion, disclosure or allegation of child abuse
- They recognise the position of trust in which they have been placed
- In every respect, the relationships they form with the young people under their care are appropriate

In the event of an allegation made by a child or young person against a member of LCVYS staff, the procedures for allegation or disclosure MUST be followed.

All adults aged eighteen or over, no matter what their role or involvement within Lincolnshire Council for Voluntary Youth Services are responsible for putting this policy into practice at all times.

This policy will be reviewed every 36 months by the LCVYS Trustees. unless changes in legislation or good practice determine an earlier review. Reporting and monitoring will be covered by Trustee meetings.