



The Quilters' Guild of the British Isles

Child Protection Policy



Policy Statement

The Quilters' Guild of the British Isles is committed to practice which protects young people from intentional and unintentional harm. Staff and volunteers in this organisation accept and recognise our responsibilities to develop awareness of the issues which cause young people harm. This policy applies particularly to the duty of The Quilters' Guild towards its members who are under 18 years of age.

Commitment

The Quilters' Guild recognises we have a commitment to protecting young people with/ for whom we work.

Statement of values and principles

The Quilters' Guild believes that:

All young people have equal rights to protection from abuse and exploitation.

Child abuse is never acceptable.

Aims

To create a healthy and safe environment for all YQ events.

To ensure that young people are listened to and kept safe from harm.

To ensure that all staff and volunteers are well informed of child protection issues and procedures, and are adequately trained.

To support and encourage all staff and volunteers to voice their concerns regarding welfare of young people in their care.

We will endeavour to safeguard young people through the following means:

Awareness: We will ensure that all staff and volunteers are aware of the problem of child abuse. We will share information about child protection and good practice with parents, guardians, staff and volunteers. We will adopt procedures and a code of conduct for staff and volunteers.

Prevention: We will ensure, through awareness and good practice, that staff and others minimise the risks to young people. We will follow carefully the procedures for recruitment and selection of staff and volunteers. We will provide effective management for staff and volunteers through supervision, support and training.

Reporting: We will ensure that staff and others are clear what steps to take where concerns arise regarding the safety of young people. We will share information about concerns with appropriate agencies.

Responding: We will ensure that action is taken to support and protect young people where concerns arise regarding possible abuse.

How we will ensure our aims are achieved:

Good practice will be developed within The Guild which will be published through the YQ Volunteer Handbook.

Recruitment procedures will include checks on suitability for working with young people through carefully produced selection procedures.

All Guild staff and volunteers will be informed of The Guild's Child Protection Policy and procedures.

All Guild members will have the Child Protection Policy and procedures made available to them on The Guild's website.

Training, learning opportunities and support will be offered to Quilters' Guild staff and volunteers as appropriate to ensure procedures for best practice are followed.

Parents and guardians will be made aware of The Guild's Child Protection Procedures by disseminating information through the YQ membership and the Regions.

Good working relationships with relevant Child Protection Agencies will be developed and maintained in order to ensure policies and procedures are up to date.

This policy supports the good practice and procedures published in The Quilters' Guild Young Quilter Volunteer Handbook, including the Code of Conduct for Young Quilter Volunteers. It will be reviewed and updated at regular intervals.