

Child Protection Policy

It is the policy of ScoutWired to safeguard the welfare of all members by protecting them from physical, sexual and emotional harm.

Accordingly ScoutWired is committed to:

- taking into account in all its considerations and activities the interests and well-being of young people;
- respecting the rights, wishes and feelings of the young people with whom it is working;
- taking all reasonable practicable steps to protect them from physical, sexual and emotional harm;
- promoting the welfare of young people and their protection within a relationship of trust.

Code of Behaviour

DO put this code into practice at all times.

DO treat everyone with dignity and respect.

DO set an example you would wish others to follow.

DO treat all young people equally - show no favouritism.

DO respect a young person's right to personal privacy.

DO avoid unacceptable situations within a relationship of trust e.g. a sexual relationship with a youth Member over the age of consent.

DO allow young people to talk about any concerns they may have.

DO encourage others to challenge any attitudes or behaviours they do not like.

DO avoid being drawn into inappropriate attention seeking behaviour e.g. tantrums and crushes.

DO follow Scoutings 'no alcohol' guidance when working with young people.

DO make everyone aware of ScoutWired's child protection procedures - young people, parents/carers, Young Leaders and other helpers.

DO remember this code even at sensitive moments e.g. when responding to bullying, bereavement or abuse.

DO keep other Leaders informed of where you are and what you are doing.

DO remember someone else might misinterpret your actions, no matter how well-intentioned.

DO take any allegations or concerns of abuse seriously and refer immediately

DO NOT trivialise abuse.

DO NOT form a relationship with a young person that is an abuse of trust.

DO NOT permit abusive peer activities e.g. initiation ceremonies, bullying.

DO NOT engage in inappropriate behaviour- physical, verbal, sexual.

DO NOT make suggestive remarks or threats to a young person, even in fun.

DO NOT use inappropriate language – writing, phoning, email or internet.

DO NOT let allegations, suspicions, or concerns about abuse go unreported.

DO NOT just rely on your good name to protect you.

If you have a concern about a young person's safety and well being:

1. Immediately tell your Head Of Department or Coordinator.
2. Write careful notes of what you witnessed, heard or was told
3. Sign, date and pass your notes to your Coordinator
4. Ensure that no Scouting situation arises which could cause any further concern

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

1. Allow the young person to speak without interruption, accepting what is said
2. Offer immediate understanding and reassurance, while passing no judgement
3. Advise that you will try to offer support but that you must pass the information
4. Immediately tell your Head Of Department or Coordinator
5. Write careful notes of what was said or save a copy of the chat log; use actual words wherever possible
6. Sign, date and pass your notes to your Head Of Department or Coordinator
7. Ensure that no Scouting situation arises which could cause any further concern

Note: In an emergency (young person at imminent risk of significant harm) contact police or social service/work department direct. Inform your Head Of Department or Coordinator of the action you have taken.

If you receive a complaint or allegation about any adult or about yourself:

1. Immediately tell your Head Of Department or Coordinator

2. Write careful notes of what you witnessed, heard or was told
3. Sign, date and pass your notes to your Head Of Department or Coordinator
4. Try to ensure no-one is placed in a position which could cause further compromise

Note: Any Adult in Scouting has the right to report any concerns, or suspicions about another Member in confidence and free from harassment.

You must refer; you must not investigate.

Data Logging Policy

It is ScoutWired Policy to log all communication on our network to ensure we provide Adequate protection to all young people and Adults on the network. If you suspect there is a child protection issue you may request any section of logs from all communication services we offer. TS3 voice chat is not logged.

Anti-Bullying policy

“Children have the right to protection from all forms of violence (physical or mental). They must be kept safe from harm and they must be given proper care by those looking after them.” [The United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child, Article 19]

ScoutWired is committed to this ethos and seeks to ensure, as far as is reasonably practicable, the prevention of all forms of bullying among members. To this end all Scouting activities should have in place rigorous anti-bullying strategies.