



## Surfers Against Sewage Safeguarding Policy

Surfers Against Sewage makes a positive contribution to strong and safe communities and recognises the right of every individual to stay safe.

Surfers Against Sewage – our staff, contractors, Regional Reps, Community Leaders or Volunteers - may come into contact with children and/or vulnerable adults through any of the following or similar activities:

- Beach/Park/River/Street Cleaning Activities
- Education programmes
- Plastic Free Communities
- Outside events where Surfers Against Sewage have a stall (e.g. festivals)
- Fundraising events
- Campaign Actions

For reasons of consistency and practicality, the charity's procedures for safeguarding vulnerable adults will be the same as those for safeguarding children and young people except where the law, or the specific circumstances of an individual's need require otherwise.

Specifically related to vulnerable adults, we will not take a donation if we know, or have good reason to believe, that a person lacks capacity to make a decision to donate, or is in vulnerable circumstances which mean they may not be able to make an informed decision.

Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility and staff awareness is key. All SAS staff will be made aware of this policy as part of their initial induction process and will confirm their understanding. It is our responsibility to ensure that our contractors, Regional Reps, Community Leaders and Volunteers have access to and understand this Policy.

### **We will seek to keep children and vulnerable adults safe by:**

- Appointing a nominated Safeguarding Lead and a Lead Trustee for Safeguarding.
  - The SAS Safeguarding Lead is Emily van de Geer (Philanthropy & Partnerships Manager) – [emily@sas.org.uk](mailto:emily@sas.org.uk)
  - The lead Trustee is Lesley Kazan-Pinfield – [lesley@zazweb.co.uk](mailto:lesley@zazweb.co.uk)
- Adopting child protection and safeguarding best practice through our policies and procedures.

Surfers Against Sewage  
Wheal Kitty Workshops  
St Agnes, Cornwall, TR5 0RD

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Registered Charity in England & Wales No. 1145877  
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- Providing effective management for staff and volunteers through supervision, support, training and quality assurance measures so that all staff and volunteers know about and follow our policies, procedures and behaviour codes confidently and competently.
  - As part of the induction process, all relevant staff complete online training with SAFEcic.
- Recruiting and selecting staff and volunteers safely, ensuring all necessary checks are made.
  - Plastic Free Communities Leads and Volunteer Clean Leaders are required to declare that they have no un-spent convictions (or other reasons) that prohibit them from working with Children and Vulnerable Adults. If necessary, we could request that Plastic Free Community Leaders complete DBS check.
- Ensuring that we provide a safe physical environment by applying health and safety measures in accordance with the law and regulatory guidance.
  - When SAS staff or volunteers organise a clean, all children under the age of 16 & vulnerable adults must be accompanied by a responsible adult.
  - When SAS staff or volunteers deliver a school talk or talk to another community group, they must be supervised by an adult who has overall responsibility for the children or vulnerable adults (e.g. Teacher, Group Leader).
  - Staff to child supervision ratios for education activities such as Ocean School need to be 1:10 and there always needs to be a teacher from the school present. If the school's own regulations state a lower supervision ratio, then SAS will adhere to the school guidelines.
- Recording, storing and using information and images professionally and securely, in line with data protection legislation and guidance.
- Providing information about our safeguarding policy on request and making sure that children, young people and their families/carers know where to go for help if they have a concern.
  - Any concerns should be referred to the SAS Safeguarding Lead in the first instance.
- Using our Complaints Procedure to appropriately manage any concerns or allegations against staff, contractors, Regional Reps, Community Leaders or Volunteers.

This policy and procedure will be reviewed every year and will include accuracy of personnel details and any updates required by a change in local or national guidance and laws.

Where there are any changes to the policy, this will be communicated via a briefing to all staff and any relevant related parties (such as contractors, Regional Reps, Community Leaders and Volunteers) and the Handbook will be updated accordingly.

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