

Dalesdown



Child Protection Principles

The Board of Directors at Family Foundations Trust, in their concern to protect children and young people at Dalesdown are committed to the adoption of the guidelines concerning Child Protection as published by the Home Office in 'Safe from Harm' and in the Baptist Union Handbook 'Safe to Grow'.

It is expected that all groups using Dalesdown will have their own Child Protection Policies.

The following statement of Child Protection principles has been adopted by the Board of Family Foundations Trust.

Those responsible for groups of children and young people at Dalesdown will be asked to sign a statement, on their booking form, indicating that this policy has been read and that the principles contained in this policy accepted. Written acceptance of the policy statement is a condition of booking at Dalesdown.

A full copy of the Baptist Union Child Protection Policy, 'Safe to Grow' is held at Dalesdown and is available for reference.

Principle 1

It is the responsibility of leaders to know the whereabouts of the children and young people for whom they have responsibility at all times.

Principle 2

All activities with children and young people should be planned to minimise situations where they may be at risk of harm. All leaders should be familiar with the following 'Good Practice guidelines'. Leaders have a 'duty to care' for the children and young people who are their responsibility.

Principle 3

It is recommended that each leader, however experienced, will have somebody to oversee their work. This is to support and encourage the leader and to ensure that the children and young people in their care are kept safe from harm.

Principle 4

Health and safety issues are important. All leaders should be familiar with the whereabouts of the fire exits and fire extinguishers, telephones etc. Each leader is to be fully aware of the group's guidelines concerning injuries and the whereabouts of their first aiders. Leaders should know where their first aid boxes are located.

Principle 5

Particular care is to be taken when leaders are using the communal toilet and showering facilities at the same time as children and young people. A sensible, appropriate degree of modesty is to be observed at all times. Use could be made of the individual en-suite showers in rooms 4 & 5, the cloakroom for disabled guests and the kitchen cloakroom.

Principle 6

It is not safe to presume that anyone can be excluded from being a potential abuser.

Good Practice Guidelines

These guidelines are to help you to be above reproach in your work with children and young people at Dalesdown.

These guidelines are to protect both you and the children and young people in your care.

Most of these guidelines are common sense and for the most part they are a statement of the obvious.

Where possible avoid being alone with a child or young person or a group of children or young people.

Avoid being alone in a closed room or tent with a child or young person.

Always act in a way appropriate to the child or young person's age and needs.

Avoid having a 'favourite' child or young person, or group of children or young people.

Avoid unnecessary, informal touching.

Restrain a child or young person only to prevent the child or young person hurting himself or others.

Be aware of the special needs of vulnerable children or young people.

Be sensitive to touch if you are involved in any ministry with children or young people. If praying with children or young people, ensure you are in the close proximity of other leaders.

Be sensitive to children or young people if you are considering the ministry of 'laying on of hands'. Tell the child or young person what you wish to do and be sure you have their permission to proceed.

Leaders should be prepared to let other leaders know if it is considered that actions, language or attitude is inappropriate or open to misinterpretation.

(This policy statement was agreed at a Directors' meeting held on 13 Dec. 1999 and will be agreed at each AGM, where implementation will be monitored)

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