

SIDMOUTH RUNNING CLUB

Safeguarding Policy Statement

The purpose and scope of this policy statement is:

To protect children and young people who receive Sidmouth Running Clubs services in the sport of running and associated training from harm.

To provide the Junior Coaches and Volunteers within the Junior section of Sidmouth Running Club as well as children and young people and their families, with the overarching principles that guide our approach to child protection.

This policy applies to the Club committee and all volunteers who help within the junior section.

Senior Lead for Safeguarding and Child Protection.

Name: Grahame Womersley-Westlake

Phone: 07488 279705

email: grey111279@gmail.com

We recognise that:

- The welfare of children and young people is paramount in all the work we do and in all the decisions we take.
- Working in partnership with children, young people, their parents, coaches and volunteers is essential in promoting children and young people's welfare.
- All children and young people, regardless of age, disability, gender, race, religion or belief, sex or sexual orientation have an equal right to protection from all types of harm and abuse.
- Extra safeguards may be needed to keep children and young people who are additionally vulnerable safe from abuse.

We will seek to keep children and young people safe by:

- Valuing, listening to and respecting them.
- Appointing a nominated Child Protection Lead and Deputy for children and young people.
- Adopting child protection and safeguarding best practice through our policies, procedures and code of conduct for coaches and volunteers.
- Providing effective training and support to coaches and volunteers.
- (a) Any member under the age of 18 can only join in the adult runs if accompanied by a parent or guardian.

We believe that:

- Children and young people should never experience abuse of any kind.
- We have a responsibility to promote the welfare of all children and young people, to keep them safe and to practice in a way that protects them.
- Recording and storing and using information professionally and securely in line with the clubs General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) policy.
- Making sure that children, young people and their families know where to go for help if they have a concern.
- Using our procedures to manage any allegations against coaches and volunteers appropriately.
- Ensuring that we have effective complaints and whistleblowing measures in place.
- Ensuring that we provide a safe physical environment for our children, young people, coaches and volunteers, by applying Health and Safety measures in accordance with the law and regulatory guidance.
- Building a safeguarding culture where coaches and volunteers, children and young people and their families, treat each other with respect and are comfortable about sharing concerns.

Contact details

Nominated Child Protection Lead

Name: Grahame Womersley-Westlake

Phone/email: As above

Deputy Child Protection Lead

Name: Donna Womersley-Westlake

Phone: 07488 279693

email: dwestlke88@gmail.com

Welfare Officer

Name Janice Ranson

Email via the “Get in Touch” tab on the club website

This policy was last updated (a) on:

Date: 14th June 2026

Signed:

Terry Bewes

Position: Chair

Complaints Procedure

Any complaint in the first instance must be made to the Child Protection Lead or their Deputy who will record the names of those involved and the complaint in writing.

The Protection Lead or Deputy will then notify the child/child's, young person's parents, either in person or by phone in the first instance, of the complainant's name and details of the complaint.

Any further communication will be in writing for clarity.

If the complaint is against either the Lead or Deputy Protection Lead then this should be made to the Chair via the "Get In Touch" tab on the website.

If it is of a sexual nature the relevant authority will be informed in writing. They will then take on the role of investigating the complaint and reporting back to the committee on its findings.

A copy will be forwarded to the Clubs Welfare Officer who will deal with it in line with the Clubs Grievance and Disciplinary Policy a copy of which is available on the Clubs website.