

Safeguarding Policy Statement



It is the primary responsibility of all CFAVs to safeguard the moral, psychological and physical welfare of their cadets regardless of sex, religion, race, social background or disability by protecting them from any form of physical, emotional and sexual abuse or neglect.

All cadets have the right to protection from all forms of abuse and harm when engaged in VCC activities and when in contact with members of the VCC.

All CFAVs have a duty of care, which makes them responsible both for safeguarding cadets from abuse and harm and for responding swiftly and appropriately when suspicions or allegations of inappropriate behaviour arise.

The VCC aims to ensure that all cadets are kept safe from harm while they are in its care by:

- Providing parents and cadets with information about what we do and what they can expect from the VCC.
- Making sure that all CFAVs are carefully selected and given training appropriate to their supervisory roles.
- Providing a means for cadets and parents to report their concerns if there is anything they are not happy about.
- Appointing a Welfare Officer to act as the Child Protection point of contact in each unit.

The VCC also aims to protect its CFAVs against false allegations by:

- Establishing rules for an appropriate balance of male and female adult supervisors in relation to the gender of cadets in a unit.
- Establishing the correct ratios of CFAVs to cadets for best practice.
- Ensuring where possible that a single CFAV is not alone with any cadet for any length of time or placed in situations where his/her conduct can be misconstrued.
- Ensuring that only those people who are properly entered and listed members of the CFAVs have unsupervised access to cadets.
- Developing a culture of thinking safely and acting safely.
- Ensuring CFAVs and cadets know the correct and appropriate means to report allegations of suspected abuse.

The duty of care to provide suitable and sufficient Child Protection also extends to children who are not cadets but are in some way associated with or under the jurisdiction of the VCC (eg: children from other youth organisations with whom the VCC may engage in activities from time to time).

Safeguarding concerns must be reported in accordance with the VCRs and AC72008.



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