

## SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN, YOUNG PEOPLE AND VULNERABLE ADULTS POLICY.

Foyle Pride Festival is committed to promoting the welfare of children, young people and vulnerable adults and works to protect children, young people and vulnerable adults from harm. Foyle Pride Festival contracted staff or volunteers do not at any point take on the role of primary carers and children, young people and vulnerable adults always remain the direct responsibility of their guardians or carers. Nevertheless, Foyle Pride Festival wish to ensure that all children and young people and vulnerable adults can participate in a safe environment where their welfare, health and safety, protection and security is a priority.

In the case of any concerns arising regarding a child, young person or vulnerable adult's welfare then the matter will be taken seriously and action taken immediately. All Foyle Pride Festival team members will always adhere to the highest standards in relation to child protection and the protection of vulnerable adults. Any case of poor practice should be reported to the Foyle Pride Festival safe guarding contact, the Chair of the organisation

All Foyle Pride Festival team members will be required to demonstrate exemplary behaviour and follow the Code of Conduct at all times to protect themselves from false allegations.

We are committed to reviewing our policy, procedures and practice at regular intervals to ensure that we are doing the best that we can to protect people taking part in the festival.

Foyle Pride Festival are committed to the following to ensure the safeguarding of Children, Young People and Vulnerable Adults:

- Following carefully the procedures laid down for recruitment and selection of contracted staff and volunteers including all necessary checks are made
- Valuing and respecting children, young people and vulnerable adults
- Listening to children, young people and vulnerable adults
- Providing effective management for contracted staff and volunteers through supervision, support and training
- Reporting concerns to statutory agencies who need to know
- Adopting guidelines for safeguarding children, young people and vulnerable adults taking part in Foyle Pride Festival
- Sharing information about safeguarding children and young people and vulnerable adults and good practice with children, young people, parents, contracted staff and volunteers
- Ensuring safety procedures are adhered to at all times
- Ensuring that the Foyle Pride Festival Code of Conduct is followed

We will ensure that we take steps to promote and create a positive culture and climate during the festival, we will:

- Ensure that all team members are easily identifiable by the use of Foyle Pride Festival T-Shirts, Lanyards and High Visibility Jackets depending on the event.
- Ensure that the Code of Conduct is followed at all times and that team members are ambassadors for Foyle Pride Festival and act as role model for children and young people. Everything that team members do while on duty should reflect this
- Ensure that no team member is under the influence of drugs or alcohol when on duty

- Ensure that all language and conversation will be appropriate
- Treat all children, young people and adults with respect
- Never reprimand or shout at a child young person or vulnerable adult
- Avoid being alone with a single child young person or vulnerable adult
- Never initiate physical contact with a child, young person or vulnerable adults
- Ensure that a child, young person or vulnerable adult needs First Aid is taken to the relevant officer or First Aid/Ambulance site.

## REPORTING

If something a child, young person or vulnerable adult tells you or leads you to suspect they are being abused or mistreated, you are obliged to report your concerns by following the guidance below and by reporting your concerns to the Chair, as the safe guarding contact.

- Children and vulnerable adults attending festival events are the responsibility of their teachers/parent / guardians/ carers and should always be accompanied and supervised by an adult or carer.
- Youth and school groups attending our events should be accompanied by a named worker from their organisation
- No unauthorised photography audio or video recording of children and young people or vulnerable adults is allowed at Foyle Pride Festival Events or at events including Family Funday Events, Parade Day Family Area.
- Some children young people or vulnerable adults may have specific needs to help them take part in a Foyle Pride Festival Event. If this is the case, we ask the responsible teachers/parent / guardians/ carers to contact Foyle Pride Festival organisers prior to arrival.

Foyle Pride Festival actively seeks wherever possible to meet these needs but must know beforehand to prepare support or advise on the provisions in place to meet access needs. Please email: [foylepridefestival@gmail.com](mailto:foylepridefestival@gmail.com)

## CHILD AND VULNERABLE ADULT PROTECTION PROCEDURE:

Foyle Pride Festival recognises that it is always possible that a child or young person or vulnerable adult that is suffering abuse may disclose it to a member of Foyle Pride Festival team member or contracted staff member. It is not the responsibility of Foyle Pride Festival team members to decide whether abuse has taken place but we are responsible for following the procedure to make sure that this is reported. Where possible Foyle Pride Festival Health and Safety Officer, Community Engagement Officer and then the Chair should be involved immediately.

In the event of a disclosure:

- Do not offer confidentiality. At the first opportunity explain that the information will have to be shared with others. Reassure that it will only be shared with people that need to know and that should be able to help

Work with another team member or stay close to a co-worker in eye contact if possible

- Remain calm and in control but don't delay acting.
- Listen carefully to what is said. Allow the person to tell their story at their own speed and only ask questions for clarification.
- The child, young person or vulnerable adult should be reassured that they did the right thing in telling someone
- The child, young person or vulnerable adult should be told what is happening next and why.
- The person with designated child protection responsibility should be informed. It is that person's responsibility to liaise with the relevant authorities
- As soon as is possible, a note should be made of what was said using the child's own words
- If there are any concerns about the immediate safety of a child, young person or vulnerable adult then the police must be contacted without delay
- Note the date time any names that were involved or mentioned and who the information was given to. Sign and date the record.