

**Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy**

FibroSupport-Wales has considered its responsibilities to the young people that might participate in group/charity events very carefully, and has produced the following **Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy** and underpinning procedures in order to set out the standards we wish to uphold in providing meetings and events to which would include children and safeguarding the welfare of the children in our care.

**FibroSupport-Wales** affiliates to the National Governing Body and the charity/group recognises the policies of their own Governing Body, as set out in the “Child Protection Act.

**Policy Statement**

FibroSupport-Wales acknowledges its duty of are to safeguard the welfare of all young people (defined as those under 18) involved in any activity or social event held by ourselves. All young people have a right to protection, and have their particular needs taken into account.

FibroSupport-Wales will therefore endeavour to ensure the safety and protection of all young people involved with the group/charity through the Child Protection guidelines adopted by the Trustees of FibroSupport-Wales. It is the responsibility of all adults within the organization to assist the Trustees in this endeavour.

**Policy Aims**

To value, respect and listen to all children who attend

To maintain strong child protection system and procedures for all staff and volunteers

To provide young people with the appropriate safety and protection whilst in our care, and also to make sure where there is need that events have been tailored to cater for their attendance..

To reassure parents that their children will receive the best practicable care possible whilst participating in any activities or meet ups within our care.

To provide support to group/charity members and volunteers to make informed and confident responses to specific child protection issues and to fulfil their role effectively.

**Principles**

The welfare of young people is paramount.

All young people, whatever their age, culture, disability, gender, language, ethnic origin and religious beliefs have the right to protection from abuse.

All suspicions and allegations of abuse and poor practice will be taken seriously and responded to swiftly and appropriately.

All staff and volunteers will have the appropriate checks and DBS before being allowed to assist with group/charity.

All staff will have relevant training and made aware of Child Protection procedures and who to approach if any issue arise.

All staff and volunteers working with us have a responsibility to report concerns to any trustees, or allocated Safeguarding Officer immediately.

Adults- member, volunteers or anyone in contact with children will be supported to understand their role and responsibility with regard to the duty of care and protection of young people and child protection act by the trustees and appointed Safeguarding Officer.

Individuals will receive support though education and training, co-ordinated by the charity/governing body to be aware of and understand best practice and how to manage any welfare or child protection and safeguarding procedures.

FibroSupport-Wales will work in partnership with young people and parents to review and implement child protection and safeguarding procedures.

FibroSupport-Wale’s policy and procedures are based on the above principles and uk and international legislation and government guidance and take the following into consideration

The Children’s Act 1989 and 2004

Working Together to Safeguard children 2015

The UN Convention on the Rights of the Child

Any subsequent legislation relating to child protection would implicitly be incorporated into this document

**Responsibilities and Communication**

FibroSupport-Wales Child Protection Policy will be available to all members parents, staff and volunteers and participants.

The Policy will be reviewed every year by the trustees of charity and amended as appropriate. Guidance from all governing bodies will be sought as part of the review.

The Trustees have responsibility of ensuring that the policy and procedures are implemented, including referring the appropriate disciplinary action to the National Governing Body where appropriate.

The Trustees and or Safeguarding Officer has responsibility for responding to any allegations, concerns or child protection incidents, passing on information to the appropriate agencies and informing where appropriate the relevant staff.

Parents have a responsibility to work together with the Group/Charity in implementing procedures and providing their children with the necessary information to keep themselves safe.

**Monitoring and Review**

The policy will be reviewed yearly and will be updated where appropriate and to any significant new legislation.

The policy will be monitored in partnership with Trustees and any relevant agencies.