



Safeguarding Children and Young People policy

Kessingland Youth Cafe

Francis Rd

Kessingland

NR33 7PU

1. Purpose

Safeguarding and promoting the wellbeing of children and young people.

The Youth Café team recognises that under the Children's Act 2004, updated to The Childcare Act 2006, they have a duty and responsibility for making arrangements to ensure all recommendations in regard to safeguarding and promoting the well-being of children/young people are adhered to when children/young people are attending the venue.

In The Childcare Act 2006 "well-being" means

- Physical and mental health and emotional well-being
- Protection from harm and neglect
- Education training and recreation
- The contribution made by them to society
- Social and economic well-being

KSSC recognises that the Independent Safeguarding Authority merged with the Criminal Records Bureau in 2012 to form the Disclosure and Barring service (DBS) and will comply with any changes in procedures as/when they are introduced.

Please can all team members read “[Working Together to Safeguard Children 2023](#)” online. [This document was updated on 31st March 2026 and is titled “Working together to Safeguard Children 2026”](#) This document is a guide to multi-agency working to help, protect and promote the welfare of children. Written Dec 2023 [Updated March 2026](#) and has over 160 pages of information.

[Recent updates to further protect young people are, the UK online safety act 2023 which forces tech companies to protect users – especially children – from illegal and harmful content. Also the government is committed to implementing restrictions for under 16years on 29th April 2026 this was agreed with a potential outright ban in future.](#)

2. Persons affected

- The management team, volunteers and staff paid or unpaid.
- All facility users
- All victors and contractors

3. Safeguarding policy

Kessingland Youth Café and Parish Council will ensure that

- All users and volunteers are aware and committed to the importance of safeguarding and promoting the well-being of children/young people. All youth leaders/volunteers will be DBS checked. They should always demonstrate good leadership and be informed about and take responsibility for the actions of staff/volunteers that are involved in providing services to children/young people and their families at all times. This includes taking responsibility for monitoring the actions of other users to safeguard and promote well-being ensuring that children/young people are listened to appropriately and taking action when necessary regarding any concerns expressed about their well-being or welfare and being accountable for such actions knowing the correct pathways for referral should the need arise.

- All persons who work, volunteer, run groups with children/young people and their families should have a clear understanding of the responsibilities of safeguarding.
- All staff/volunteers will be made aware of the groups policy on safeguarding and the systems in place to ensure any complaints about noncompliance of safeguarding procedures can be made in a timely manner and an appropriate response given. Please see “whistle blowing” on procedure documentation.
- Any allegations or concerns about staff, volunteers or users of the centre are handled by Kessingland Parish Council or Suffolk Safeguarding Children Board if needed, thus enabling concerns, safeguarding issues to be addressed effectively.
- The youth leaders and volunteers should be aware of how to raise concerns and seek advice by contacting Customer First on 08088004005 or in emergency situation 999 for police assistance. Any information shared should be done efficiently and effectively in respect of any issues raised. Being mindful not to question the children/young person’s comments other than to verify what has been divulged and not to promise confidentiality.
- The Kessingland Youth Café aims to provide a safe environment for children/young people when using the facilities and will adhere to the guidance and principles identified in Childcare Act 2006.
- Good interagency and multi-disciplinary working is promoted and maintained within the Kessingland Youth Cafe to ensure standards of practice are as high as possible when working with children/young people and their families/carers.
- The Youth Café promotes safe practice and poor and unsafe practice will be challenged appropriately.

This policy and guidance will be monitored by the Kessingland Youth Café Leaders and Kessingland Parish Council and reviewed every year from this update. Updated 12-06-2024 to include advice to read [“Working Together to Safeguard Children 2023”](#). Further updated 01-05-26 to include [“Working together to Safeguard Children 2026”](#) Online safety act 2023 and age restrictions (over 16years only) for some online content April 2026.

Date 01-05-2026

Signed

C A Smith

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Senior Youth Work Leader

I certify that this policy was reviewed and approved by the Kessingland Parish Council at a meeting held on Wednesday 8th July 2026.

Signed

Dated

Cllr S. James

Chair, Kessingland Parish Council