

Safeguarding Policy Statement

The BSCI/BSCCT acknowledges the duty of care to safeguard and promote the welfare of children, young people and vulnerable adults and is committed to ensuring safeguarding practice reflects statutory responsibilities, UK government guidance and complies with Charities Commission and OSCR best practice.

Our policy recognises that the welfare and interests of children, young people and vulnerable adults are paramount in all circumstances. The policy aims to ensure that regardless of age, gender, religion or beliefs, ethnicity, disability, sexual orientation or socio-economic background that members of our Society have a positive and enjoyable experience of our activities and are protected from abuse whilst participating in any of our events.

We acknowledge that some children and adults can be particularly vulnerable to abuse and we accept the responsibility to take reasonable and appropriate steps to ensure their welfare. As part of our safeguarding policy we will:

- promote and prioritise the safety and wellbeing of children, young people and vulnerable adults
- ensure everyone understands their roles and responsibilities in respect of safeguarding and is up-to-date with appropriate standards enabling the recognition, of signs of abuse, neglect and other safeguarding concerns plus how to respond
- ensure appropriate action is taken in the event of incidents/concerns of abuse notified to the Society
- support individual/s who raise or disclose the concern
- ensure that confidential, detailed and accurate records of all safeguarding concerns are maintained and securely stored with the Society secretariat
- prevent the employment/deployment of unsuitable individuals by adoption of this policy by all members plus staff and volunteers engaged by the society
- ensure robust safeguarding arrangements and procedures are in operation.

The policy and procedures will be widely promoted and are mandatory for everyone involved in Society activities. Failure to comply with the policy and procedures will be addressed without delay and may ultimately result in dismissal/exclusion from the Society.

Monitoring

The policy will be reviewed a year every three years, or in the following circumstances:

- changes in legislation and/or
- UK government guidance as a result of any other significant change or event.