

***Crewe
Photographic
Society***

***Child and
Vulnerable Adult
Protection Policy***

See website at www.crewephtotosoc.com

Downloads, Resources., New Constitution 2010.

Crewe Photographic Society

Child and Vulnerable Adult Protection policy

Child and Vulnerable Adult Policy Statement

1. Crewe Photographic Society subscribe to the Child and Vulnerable Adult Protection Policy listed below.
2. Crewe Photographic Society is committed to policies which promote good practice and protect children and vulnerable adults from harm.
3. Throughout this document a child is defined as a young person aged 18 years and below.
4. Crewe Photographic Society is committed to making sure that children and vulnerable adults are protected and kept safe from harm while they are engaged in all formal or informal activities organized by club members.
5. Crewe Photographic Society accepts and recognises the responsibilities to develop awareness of the issues which may cause children and vulnerable adults harm.

Acceptance of Crewe Photographic Society Child Protection Policy is part of the conditions of membership of Crewe Photographic Society.

Aims of the policy

1. To demonstrate the commitment of Crewe Photographic Society and its members and visitors to provide and maintain an environment that protects children and vulnerable adults from harm, as well as protecting Crewe Photographic Society and its members and visitors from potential allegations.
2. To ensure club members and visitors adopt child protection guidelines through a code of behaviour.
3. To share information about concerns with a designated committee member who will immediately report the incident to the Social Services Department and the Police.
4. To ensure that all club members and visitors are familiar with Crewe Photographic Society Child and Vulnerable Adult Protection Policy.

Behaviour Statement

Always:

1. Ensure that all volunteers and members at your club are aware of these guidelines.
2. Treat everyone with respect.
3. Provide an example you wish others to follow.
4. Ensure that all children and vulnerable adults are accompanied to all meetings by a parent or carer and that they are present at all times including club trips.
5. Ensure that another adult is present when you are in the company of young people.
6. Respect persons' right to privacy.
7. Encourage young people and adults to feel comfortable enough to point out attitudes and behaviour they do not like.

8. Remember someone might misinterpret your actions and your comments no matter how well intentioned.
9. Recognise that caution is required particularly in sensitive moments such as when dealing with bullying, bereavement, grief or abuse.
10. Be aware of the possible implications of physical contact with young people.
11. Contact your local interagency child protection officer whenever in doubt.

Never:

1. Permit abusive youth peer activities (e.g. initiation ceremonies, ridiculing, bullying)
2. Jump to conclusions.
3. Allow yourself to be drawn into any inappropriate attention seeking behaviour by young people (e.g. tantrums, crushes) exaggerate or trivialise child abuse issues.
4. Show favouritism to any individual.
5. Make suggestive remarks or gestures.
6. Rely upon your good name to protect you.
7. Believe "It could never happen to me," either when dealing with abuse or being accused of committing abuse.

Action Statement

If you suspect or are told that a young person is being abused:

1. You must always refer – you must never investigate.
2. Write down the facts, as you know them.
3. Ensure that the young person is given the opportunity to talk to you, or an independent person.
4. Listen to the young person without interruption, and do not ask questions about what you may suspect.
5. Do not approach a suspected abuser yourself.
6. Provide support as appropriate.
7. Accept at face value what the young person says.
8. Do not pass judgement on what is said, but to try to alleviate any fears or guilt which the young person may have.
9. Make it clear that you can offer support, and that you **MUST** pass on the information.
10. Treat all information given to you by the child as confidential and report it only to the designated people or the appropriate authorities.

If you receive an allegation of child abuse by an adult:

1. Contact your local interagency child protection officer via one of the Club's designated contacts.
2. Record the nature of the allegation in detail.
3. Do not try to sort it out yourself.