

Safeguarding Children Policy

Swim England Qualifications (SEQ) is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children, young people and vulnerable adults and ensuring all legal requirements are met.

This policy is in addition to the Swim England Wavepower 2016-19 document and Swim England Code of Ethics.

Policy aim and purpose

SEQ aims to maintain the highest possible standards which meet social, moral and legal obligations to protect and safeguard the welfare of children. Through promotion of this policy, SEQ will provide all its key stakeholders including SEQ Approved Training Centres with guidance on managing safeguarding concerns effectively. Safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children is everyone's responsibility and you should consider, at all times, what is in the best interests of the child.

Definition of safeguarding

There are many aspects that are considered within safeguarding. These are clearly defined in the following two statutory guidance documents.

- **Keeping Children Safe in Education**
- **Working Together to Safeguard Children**

These are available on line and the most recent documents must be viewed. These are updated by the government when there are changes to how safeguarding is to be managed effectively.

To summarise safeguarding is:

- Where a child is suffering significant harm, or likely to do so, action should be taken to protect that child. (Section 47 and 44 of the Children Act 1989)
- Where action should be taken to promote the welfare of a child in need of additional support, even if they are not suffering harm or at immediate risk. (Section 17 of the Children Act 1989)

A child is defined as under the age of 18 years.

Specific Safeguarding Concerns

Specific safeguarding concerns are detailed within the following documents:

- **Keeping Children Safe in Education**
- **Working Together to Safeguard Children**

It is essential that all those that work with children are fully aware of these documents. They list the responsibilities of the various key stakeholders, detailing who and what to do in the case of a safeguarding concern. Rather than replicate this in this policy document SEQ require all key stakeholders to ensure they meet the requirements of these statutory documents fully. This will be reviewed as part of the annual centre review process and at all other possible opportunities.

The specific safeguarding concerns noted in Keeping Children Safe in Education include:

- Bullying including cyberbullying
- Children missing education
- Child missing from home or care
- Child sexual exploitation (CSE)
- Domestic violence
- Drugs
- Fabricated or induced illness
- Faith abuse
- Female genital mutilation (FGM)
- Forced marriage
- Gangs and youth violence
- Gender-based violence/violence against women and girls (VAWG)
- Hate
- Mental health
- Missing children and adults
- Private fostering
- Preventing radicalisation
- Relationship abuse
- Sexting
- Trafficking

Further detail specific to Swim England Qualifications

Educators

All Educators must hold a current Swim England license. As part of the licensing scheme and relevant to safeguarding, the tutor/assessor will:

- Complete a Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) check (previously referred to as a CRB) and update this every three years or sign up to the DBS update service
- Complete a Swim England approved safeguarding and protecting children in sport course and update this every three years
- Read, understand and abide by the Swim England Code of Ethics, Wavepower and Keeping Children Safe in Education.

Approved Training Centre requirements

SEQ requires its Approved Training Centres to:

- Utilise Educators who hold a current Swim England license only
- Ensure all those involved understand their safeguarding responsibilities fully including Swim England Code of Ethics, Wavepower and Keeping Children safe in education
- Provide a safe environment for learners.
- Have effective processes in place so all concerns, discussions and decisions made, and the reasons for those decisions, are recorded in writing.

Monitoring and review

This policy and its procedures will be reviewed annually to ensure it remains fit for purpose and reflects the legal obligations for the safeguarding of children.

The next policy review will take place in May 2019.