

Appendix 2.1.1

Branch name:

Child Protection Policy

At we are aware of the vital role we all play in protecting young and vulnerable members from potential threats to their safety and wellbeing. Members should be alert to identify any risk of significant harm. All is done to ensure that the welfare and wellbeing of the child or vulnerable person is uppermost in our thoughts and actions.

All Coaches, Volunteers and Helpers should make themselves aware of the [Welfare Of Vulnerable People in Scuba Diving and Snorkelling Policy, Procedures and Guidelines](#), that is published by the British Sub Aqua Club in conjunction with the NSPCC. A brief summary of the Policy is set out below, however the booklet can be found on the BSAC web site under the following address.

This document is also held in the club mark folder and by the

Welfare of Vulnerable People Policy Guidelines The British Sub Aqua Club

- The welfare of vulnerable members, both adults and children, is the first consideration.
- All members have the right to be protected from bad practice, neglect, bullying and all forms of emotional and physical abuse.
- Suspicions and allegations of inappropriate behaviour will be taken seriously and responded to swiftly and appropriately.
- It is the duty of all members suspecting inappropriate behaviour and actions to act on any concern.
- As defined in the Children Act 1989, anyone under the age of 18 years should be considered as a child for the purposes of this policy.
- To treat all members fairly, equitably and without prejudice.
- Not to participate in or tolerate behaviour that frightens, degrades, embarrasses, demoralises or negatively affects a member's self-esteem
- Not to tolerate acts of aggression
- Photography – members should be aware that the recording of photographic images might be inappropriate
- The members of the British Sub Aqua Club should not discriminate on the grounds of gender, marital status, race, colour, disability, sexuality, age, occupation, religion or political opinion.
- Branch Officers and Instructors will be made aware of good practice with specific Welfare courses that are available, together with appropriate documentation, training and support from HQ, to ensure that Branches are able to implement the Welfare Policy.

Awareness of these issues, and the adherence to these simple guidelines, will help maintain professionalism and safeguard good practice, secure the protection of both the vulnerable and those responsible for them, from accusations arising from misinterpretation of innocent actions.

Your duty of care is to report any suspicions to the Diving Officer, Welfare Officer and/or the Chair Person who will investigate your concerns and follow the reporting procedure as laid down in the above mentioned Policy Document of which each has a copy.

Signed on behalf of the Branch Committee:

To be Reviewed: