



Safeguarding Policy

Purpose and Scope

- The policy articulates Adventure WA Support Services' commitment to safeguarding children and adults at risk engaging in our services.
- It assures the protection of their human rights and safety, and freedom from neglect and abuse.
- It applies to all staff, volunteers, participants, and members associated with Adventure WA Support Services.

Procedures

Adventure WA Support Services, including its Board Directors, staff, and volunteers, acknowledges a legal, moral, and mission-driven obligation to:

- Guard children and vulnerable adults against abuse, bullying, and exploitation.
- Foster a safe culture understood, endorsed, and implemented by everyone associated with Adventure WA Support Services.
- Recognize that safeguarding is everyone's responsibility.

Commitment

- We advocate for every participant's right to experience our services without fear or exposure to abuse and intimidation from staff, volunteers, contractors, members, or any other individuals.
- We are committed to preventing participant neglect and exploitation by any associated individuals.
- Immediate action will be taken to protect all participants, staff, and volunteers from abuse and neglect, upholding their legal and human rights.

Support Structure

- A supportive management structure will be established to assist staff in their roles.
- Support will be provided to all Adventure WA Support Services associates, including development and supervision to fulfill their roles effectively.
- Regular opportunities will be provided to clarify and confirm policy and procedures related to safeguarding, supported by annual training initiatives.

Listening and Support

- Concerns about safeguarding will be actively addressed, and formal debriefing and counseling will be available following any related incidents.
- We pledge to maintain an environment where children and vulnerable adults not only are safe but feel safe.

Recruitment Practices

- Best practice standards will be observed in the recruitment, screening, and employment process to prevent harm, abuse, or exploitation of vulnerable individuals in our programs and services.



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Breach of Policy

Breaching this policy is serious and may also violate the law.

Breaches include, but are not limited to:

- Assault (sexual or physical), verbal abuse, bullying, or harassment of vulnerable individuals in our programs.
- Unauthorized taking, reproducing, or distributing of photos, and publishing materials with images for inappropriate use.
- Any contravention of policies, regulations, or laws related to safeguarding will result in immediate action in accordance with legal standards.

Discretion and Further Information

- Adventure WA Support Services management reserves the right to exercise discretion in policy implementation, with safeguarding as the paramount consideration.
- For additional details, or inquiries related to this policy and associated procedures, please contact the CEO.

REVISIONS

FEB 1st 2023 - ORIGINAL DRAFTED

NEXT REVISION DUE: 01/02/2024