

Maintaining a Safe Culture within Family Food Action (FFA)

Protecting people and safeguarding responsibilities are a governance priority for Family Food Action and we must take reasonable steps to protect from harm people who undertake FFA activities or come into contact with FFA team members and activities.

This safeguarding code of conduct outlines the behaviour expected of FFA volunteers in person and in any online presence. The underpinning principles of the code are that:

- The welfare of children and adults at risk is paramount and protecting people from harm is central to FFA's culture
- It is the responsibility of all volunteers to behave with integrity, maturity and good judgement and according to FFA's values and this code of conduct.
- FFA Management Group (including FFA Trustees) will promote an open and positive culture and ensure all involved feel able to report concerns and be confident that they will be heard and responded to.

We will seek to safeguard all people that FFA works with and comes into contact with by:

- Valuing them, listening to them and respecting them
- Adopting safe working practices for volunteers
- Recruiting volunteers safely, ensuring all necessary checks are made as appropriate
- Provide effective support for volunteers through supervision and training
- Sharing information appropriately about concerns regarding adults and children at risk of abuse with relevant bodies in a professional, confidential and timely way
- Following safeguarding policies and codes of conduct of our partners whilst we are on their premises.

Whilst volunteering for FFA we are in a position of trust and may be seen as a role model and therefore must behave in an appropriate manner at all times.

- Any breaches of the code must be reported to the volunteer sorting team leader on the day, the Safeguarding Lead* or any member of FFA's Management Group
- Any breach of the code involving a member of staff or volunteer from another organisation will result in them being reported to the appropriate safeguarding officer within that organisation.

Volunteers must uphold this code and any safeguarding procedures at all times and:

- Treat children and adults at risk fairly without prejudice, favouritism or discrimination
- Challenge unacceptable behaviour and report all allegations or suspicions of abuse
- Respect a child or adult's right to personal privacy but be aware and never agree to keeping any information relating to the harm of a child or adult at risk confidential
- Ensure that all contact, interactions and communications (face-to-face and online) with children and adults at risk are appropriate and relevant to the work of FFA.

***Safeguarding lead:** *FFA trustee who is responsible for dealing with any concerns about the protection of vulnerable adults or children who will have Basic DBS certification and has undertaken 'NCVO Safeguarding Essentials in Charities' training. This person is Jackie Haskins. She can be contacted on 07789866421 or email safeguarding@familyfoodaction.org.uk*

For more information see the [FFA Safeguarding Policy 2023-04 here](#)