

SAFEGUARDING POLICY

NEWDAY 2023



Policy Summary

Newday is an annual residential youth festival, run in association with Clarendon Trust Ltd, a registered charity. The Newday Executive Management takes seriously its responsibility to protect the children and young people who attend and is committed to providing a safe and secure environment for them.

However, risk cannot be eliminated entirely and if/when incidents occur there are clear procedures to follow which have been carefully thought through with advice. Newday aims to respond without undue delay to any complaint, suspicion or disclosure of abuse made by a child for whom Newday shares responsibility. This includes cooperating with wider agencies, such as the Local Authority, Police, and Disclosure Services, through whom Newday now obtains DBS certificates.

The Designated Safeguarding Officer for Newday is Jane Horne and her deputies work within the Safeguarding Team. The Designated Safeguarding Officer is contactable via the Newday office during the event. The Designated Safeguarding Officer and Safeguarding Team is overseen by Wayne Parsons who is responsible for Pastoral Care during the event. The Safeguarding Team at Newday is made up of professionals with Social Work, Healthcare, Teaching and Police backgrounds.

The Designated Safeguarding Officer will record all disclosures and subsequent actions in writing and keep this information securely and confidentially for as long as necessary.

The leadership of Newday is committed to the following:

- Nurturing, safeguarding and protecting delegates and servers at Newday, especially children and young people.
- Supporting and resourcing those who work with children and young people.
- Creating an open and transparent environment where individuals feel confident about sharing concerns they have about their own, or others' safety and wellbeing.
- Ensuring all who work with children are aware of the appropriate safeguarding procedures and actions in the event of a child being at risk of, or potentially experiencing, harm or abuse.
- Offering experienced pastoral and medical teams to support all at Newday.

Newday One Team

A member of the Newday 'One Team' is anyone who has applied and been accepted to take a role in the running of Newday.

Members of the One Team, along with any adults who are serving their local church during the event (e.g. youth leaders and local church catering team) will need to complete the following steps prior to arriving at Newday.

- Read the Child Protection Policy and acknowledge this online when booking into Newday.
- Get an Enhanced DBS certificate, specifically for the Newday event. (DBS certificates for other roles outside of Newday will not be acceptable for logistical reasons).
- Get a reference from the Church Elder or Senior Leader from their current church, who they have known for at least six months and who is not a relation.
- In the event of any documentation not submitted and verified prior to the event, this must be brought to the One Team Reception onsite and submitted before an applicant/volunteer/adult accompanying a church on site, can serve.
- Applicants whose documentation is late, or incomplete, run the risk of not being able to serve/ accompany their church at Newday.

Responsible Adults coming to Newday

A Responsible Adult is an adult over 18 nominated by the local church to take responsibility for up to six under 18s from their church group during the Newday event. If a delegate needs to leave the site and are under 16 years old, their Responsible Adult will be expected to accompany them. In order to pray with young people at Newday, a responsible adult must obtain the appropriate wristband from their Group Co-ordinator or Elder. All responsible adults must have an Enhanced DBS certificate, specifically for the Newday event.

All other adults who stay on site with their local church **MUST** have an Enhanced DBS Disclosure through their local church.

In the event that an adult is staying on site without a clear Enhanced DBS check from their local church they may be asked to leave the site immediately.

Should an adult wanting to come to Newday with a local church or anyone wanting to serve with the Newday One Team have a 'blemished DBS' (namely where the Enhanced DBS check reveals a conviction or concern relating to children, sexual offences or other violent offences), they (or the Local Church) **MUST** inform the Newday Safeguarding Officer (Jane Horne) by email to safeguarding@newdaygeneration.org.

Further information will be pursued and discussion with the Newday Management Team (as appropriate) will be undertaken to assess if the person who holds the

blemished DBS is safe to be on site. Newday requests that Churches considering to bring adults on site with a blemished DBS advise Jane Horne no less than 4 weeks before the start of the Newday Festival.

Contractors

Contractors will be asked to read and sign the Child Protection Policy. Copies of this document will be held by the Newday office. If the contractor's Newday supervisor becomes aware of any inappropriate behaviour towards delegates at Newday, they will contact the Designated Safeguarding Officer as soon as possible. This may result in the contractor being asked to leave Newday. Contractors who stay onsite must have a Newday DBS.

Day Visitors and Guests

Newday operates a closed-site policy and, as such, Day visitors and guests of Newday must be met at the gate by their hosting church or Newday representative. Day visitors/guests will be asked to read and sign the Child Protection Policy before coming onsite, copies of which will be held by the Newday office.

If the host of a day visitor/guest becomes aware of any inappropriate behaviour towards delegates at Newday, they must contact the Designated Safeguarding Officer as soon as possible. This may result in the day visitor/guest being asked to leave Newday.

All day visitors and guests must have a connection to a church attending Newday or be invited by the Executive Management Team to enter the site.

Guidelines for those working with children and young people

- Where possible do not be alone with a child or young person. Ensure you can be seen by others.
- When a confidential conversation or meeting is necessary, always ensure that another responsible adult knows where and when the conversation/meeting is taking place and with who. It is recommended that another responsible adult (eg. the child or young person's youth leader) should be present where possible.
- Treat all children and young people with respect and dignity. Be mindful to use considerate and respectful language, tone of voice and body language.
- When praying for a child or young person, be careful to ensure that any physical contact is appropriate and that permission is sought from the young person. Do not invade privacy or touch in an intrusive or inappropriate way. Avoid praying for a child or young person alone.
- Ensure you are aware of and follow First Aid and Fire procedures. There are authorised, qualified First Aiders available at Newday to respond and assist children and young people. Ensure you are aware who and where your immediate First Aiders are.

- If a child discloses any abuse or harm (emotional, physical, sexual, neglect, exploitation or multiple themes) do not jump to conclusions or start to investigate, but consult your Team Leader without delay, as per reporting guidelines. The Newday Designated Safeguarding Officer or another Safeguarding Team Member in her absence, will be responsible for ensuring a fast and safe response and must be contacted as soon as possible. Members of the Safeguarding Team will make an initial assessment and take action as appropriate.
- Please talk with your Team Leader if you have any concerns or need help or advice.

Action to take with children/young people who disclose harm/abuse OR If actual or risk of harm/abuse is suspected, disclosed or discovered:

- DO NOT delay.
- DO NOT act alone.
- DO NOT start to investigate.
- DO NOT contact alleged abusers.
- DO NOT talk to parents or guardians.
- DO NOT discuss with friends.
- DO report the matter to your Team Leader; they are aware of the procedure to follow at Newday. (In the event that the issue of concern lies with the Team Leader then contact the Safeguarding Team directly).
- DO write down what the child has said in their words. You may be asked for this as evidence at a later stage/or to make a report.

How to react to a child who wants to talk about abuse

It is important that you react in a way which will be helpful and supportive to the child. It is not easy to give precise guidance, but the following may be of help:

- DO NOT agree to keep the information secret.
- DO NOT say or suggest that you are shocked.
- DO NOT say or suggest that you don't believe the child.
- DO NOT try to investigate the matter yourself. ONLY ask questions to clarify what you have heard or to understand the allegation/ concern being raised.
- DO NOT make false promises.
- DO explain to the child at the outset that you may have to tell or share information with another responsible adult if you think it necessary.
- DO remain calm and supportive.
- DO show acceptance of what the child says.
- DO reassure the child that they were right to tell you.
- DO tell the child what you are going to do next.

Abuse covers:

Physical Abuse

Physical abuse may involve hitting, shaking, throwing, poisoning, burning, scalding, drowning, suffocating or otherwise causing physical harm to a child. Physical harm may also be caused when a parent or carer fabricates the symptoms of, or deliberately induces, illness in a child. Physical abuse also includes the misuse of medication, restraint, or inappropriate sanctions. Giving children alcohol, inappropriate drugs or poison is classified as physical abuse.

Sexual Abuse

Involves forcing or enticing a child or young person to take part in sexual activities, whether or not the child is aware of what is happening. The activities may involve physical contact, including assault by penetration (for example, rape or oral sex) or nonpenetrative acts such as masturbation, kissing, rubbing and touching outside of clothing. They may also include non-contact activities, such as involving children in looking at, or in the production of, sexual images, watching sexual activities, encouraging children to behave in sexually inappropriate ways, or grooming a child in preparation for abuse (including via the internet).

Neglect

Neglect is the persistent failure to meet a child's basic physical and/or psychological needs, likely to result in the serious impairment of the child's health or development. Neglect may occur as a result of parental/caregiver substance abuse. It may involve a parent or carer failing to: provide adequate food, clothing, shelter (including exclusion from home or abandonment); failing to protect a child from physical and emotional harm or danger; failing to ensure a child receives an education; failing to ensure adequate supervision (including the use of inadequate care-givers); or failing to ensure access to appropriate medical care or treatment. It may also include neglect of, or unresponsiveness to a child's basic emotional needs.

Emotional Abuse

Emotional abuse is the persistent emotional maltreatment treatment of a child such as to cause severe and persistent adverse effects on their emotional or behavioural development. It may involve conveying to a child that they are worthless or unloved, inadequate, or valued only insofar as they meet the needs of another person. It may feature age or developmentally inappropriate expectations being imposed on children. These may include interactions that are beyond the child's developmental capability, as well as overprotection and limitation of exploration and learning, or preventing the person participating in normal social interaction. It may involve seeing or hearing the ill-treatment of another. It may involve serious bullying (including cyber bullying), causing the child frequently to feel frightened or in danger, or the exploitation or corruption of children. Some level of emotional abuse is involved in all types of maltreatment, though it may occur alone.

(Working Together to Safeguard Children, 2015)

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/working-together-to-safeguard-children--2>

It is important to note that children who are causing physical injury to, or negative

physical consequences for themselves are also suffering harm. This would likely be considered under the category of emotional harm.

It is important to be aware of forms of abuse such as the following and to report them without delay:

- Trafficking
- Exploitation
- Online abuse
- Grooming

More information on these types of abuse can be found on the NSPCC website:

Policy updated April 2023