



Child and Vulnerable Adult Protection: Creating a Safe Environment For Children and Vulnerable Adults

All enquiries regarding this policy & procedures should be directed to:

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Foreword

Everyone has a duty of care towards children and vulnerable adults to help to protect them from abuse. I Am Me Scotland has developed this policy and these procedures to create a safe environment, where children, vulnerable adults and the adults that aid them are protected and supported.

I Am Me Scotland is committed to the protection of children and vulnerable adults through the provision of this policy and these procedures. The child and vulnerable adult policy and procedures apply to everyone who works on behalf of I Am Me Scotland. This includes all professional and non-professional, full and part-time staff, paid and unpaid employees, Board and Committee members, volunteers and the children and vulnerable adults themselves. For the purposes of this policy, those to whom it is applicable will be termed 'members'. Staff and volunteers are urged to read and understand the policy and make its existence known to all members. The policy is available by contacting I Am Me directly.

I Am Me Scotland recognise that it has a responsibility to:

- Safeguard and promote the interests and well-being of children and vulnerable adults with whom it is working;
- Take all reasonable practical steps to protect them from harm, discrimination, or degrading treatment; and
- Respect their rights, wishes and feelings.

Child and vulnerable adult protection procedures can:

- Offer safeguards to the children and vulnerable adults with whom we work, and to our members of staff, volunteers and those in affiliated organisations; and

Help to maintain high standards of professionalism and practice within I Am Me Scotland

I Am Me Child and Adult Protection policy

I Am Me Scotland is fully committed to safeguarding the welfare of all children and vulnerable adults in its care. It recognises the responsibility to promote safe practice and to protect children and vulnerable adults from harm, abuse and exploitation. For the purposes of this policy and associated procedures a child is recognised as someone under the age of 18 years. A vulnerable adult is a person aged 18 years or over who may be unable to take care of themselves or protect themselves from harm, or being exploited.

Staff and volunteers will work together to embrace difference and diversity and respect the rights of everyone.

This document outlines I Am Me Scotland's commitment to protecting children and vulnerable adults.

These guidelines are based on the following principles:

- The welfare of children and vulnerable adults is the primary concern.
- Everyone, whatever their age, culture, disability, gender, language, racial origin, socio-economic status, religious belief and/or sexual identity have the right to protection from all forms of harm and abuse.
- Child and Adult protection is everyone's responsibility.
- Everyone has the right to express views on all matters which affect them, should they wish to do so.
- Organisations shall work in partnership together to promote the welfare, health and development of children and vulnerable adults.

I Am Me Scotland will:

- Promote the health and welfare of children and vulnerable adults by providing opportunities for them to take part in activities safely.
- Respect and promote the rights, wishes and feelings of everyone involved in their services.
- Promote and implement appropriate procedures to safeguard the well-being of children and vulnerable adults and protect them from abuse.
- Recruit, train, support and supervise its staff, members and volunteers to adopt best practice to safeguard and protect children and vulnerable adults from abuse and to reduce risk to themselves.
- Require staff, members and volunteers to adopt and abide by this Child and Adult Protection Policy and these procedures.
- Respond to any allegations of misconduct or abuse in line with this Policy and these procedures as well as implementing, where appropriate, the relevant disciplinary and appeals procedures.
- Observe guidelines issued by local Child and Adult Protection Committees.
- Regularly monitor and evaluate the implementation of this Policy and these procedures.