



Midhurst Camera Club

Child Protection Policy

1. Definitions used in the Policy:
 - a. A child is any person under the age of 18 and anyone over 18 years who may be vulnerable by nature of any impairment or disability.
 - b. A parent includes parents and guardians
 - c. A senior member is anyone aged 18 or over involved in the care of the children in the club.
2. The committee will appoint a Child Welfare Officer with the responsibility of acting as a focal point and keeping senior members aware of best practice.
3. Currently this appointed person is Anne Murphy of the West Sussex Youth division who can be contacted through Midhurst Grammar School on 01730 819718.
4. It is the responsibility of ALL members of the club to be alert to incidents which may involve child protection issues (suspected child abuse) and to bring it to the attention of a committee member.
5. If at any time, a member of the club believes that a child has been or may be being abused by an adult (including the parents or person in charge of the children at that time) they must inform the chairman or Child Welfare Officer of that concern.
6. The child's best interests and safety must be first consideration for all concerned and the club must ensure that the children are not put in harms way with senior members being responsible and diligent.
7. Midhurst Camera Club has adopted the policy to ensure that the welfare and safety of the children in its care or custody is always the primary consideration
8. It is committed to providing an environment where the children can learn about, participate in and enjoy photography, free from harassment or abuse.
9. A child, regardless of age or ability, gender, racial origin, religious beliefs and sexual orientation has the right to be protected from abuse and danger. As do all senior members.
10. Good practice:
 - a. Always being publicly open when working with the children
 - b. Ensuring that at least one adult who has been CRB checked is present at all times when there are children in attendance at the Midhurst Camera Club activities.
 - c. Gaining written parental consent to transport children to and from club activities
 - d. Recognising the developmental needs and capacity of children. Avoiding excessive workshop sessions and not pushing them against their will.