

The Holmes Chapel Camera Club

Draft Child Protection Policy

Child Protection Policy

The Holmes Chapel Camera Club subscribe to the Child Protection Policy listed below.

The Holmes Chapel Camera Club is committed to policies which promote good practice and protect children from harm. A child, for these purposes, is defined as a young person aged 18 years and below. The Holmes Chapel Camera Club is committed to making sure that children are protected and kept safe from harm while they are engaged in all formal or informal activities organized by club members. The Holmes Chapel Camera Club accepts and recognises the responsibilities to develop awareness of the issues which may cause children harm.

Acceptance of The Holmes Chapel Camera Club Child Protection Policy is part of the conditions of membership of the Holmes Chapel Camera Club.

Aims of the child protection policy

- To demonstrate the commitment of the Holmes Chapel Camera Club, and its club members, to provide and maintain an environment that protects children from harm, as well as protecting the Holmes Chapel Camera Club, and its club members from potential allegations.
- To ensure that club members, and their club members, are familiar with the Holmes Chapel Camera Club's Child Protection Policy.
- To ensure club members, adopt child protection guidelines, through a code of behavior, detailed in [appendix 1](#) of this document.
- To share information about concerns with agencies which may require to know and involving parents and children appropriately.
- To take appropriate action in response to child protection issues which may involve club members

Definitions of abuse

All club members should be aware that 'child abuse' may occur when the behavior of someone in a position of greater power than a child causes harm. The common denominator of all forms of abuse is that it makes the child feel bad and worthless. Because children may be abused in a number of ways, the harm caused cannot always be easily categorised.

Neglect

The actual or likely persistent or significant neglect of a child, or the failure to protect a child from exposure to any kind of danger

Physical

Actual or likely deliberated physical injury to a child, or willful or neglected failure to prevent physical injury or suffering to a child.

Sexual

Actual or likely sexual exploitation of a child. The involvement of children or adolescents in sexual activities they do not truly comprehend.

Emotional

Actual or likely significant or persistent emotional ill-treatment or rejection, resulting in severe adverse effects on the emotional, physical and/or behavioral development of a child.

Bullying

A child who is bullied may be suffering from any type of abuse. Bullying may take many forms, but the main types are; physical (e.g. hitting, kicking, theft), verbal (e.g. sectarian/racist remarks, name-calling) and indirect, such as spreading rumors.

Concerns

Any member who has a concern regarding the conduct of a fellow member should report the matter to a member of the committee.

appendix1

Code of behaviour on child protection

- 1.1 The Holmes Chapel Camera Club recognises that it is not practical to provide definitive instructions that would apply to all situations at all times whereby club members come into contact with children and to guarantee the protection of children and staff.
- 1.2 However, below are the standards of behaviour required of club members in order to fulfil their role in the application of a Child Protection Policy. This code should assist in the protection of both children and club members.
- 1.3 Club members **MUST** implement the Child Protection Policy and procedures at all times.
- 1.4 Members of affiliated clubs must not:

Have children/young people in their own vehicle. Where circumstances require the transportation of children/young people in their vehicle, another adult/parent must also travel in the vehicle. Also it is essential that:

there is adequate insurance for the vehicle to cover transporting children/young people in connection with the activities of the club;

in extreme emergencies (for medical purposes) where it is required to transport a child/young person on their own, it is essential that the parent is notified immediately;

take a child to the toilet unless another adult is present or has been made aware (this should include a parent, if present);

Spend time alone with a child on his or her own. If members find themselves in this situation, make sure that they may be clearly observed by others.

- 1.5 Club members must:

Ensure there is adequate insurance for the vehicle to cover transporting children/young people in connection with the activities of the club;

That in extreme emergencies (for medical purposes) where it is required to transport a child/young person on their own, it is essential that the parent is notified immediately;

1.6 Club members must never:

engage in rough, physical games including horseplay with children;

Allow or engage in inappropriate touching of any kind.

The main principles of touch are:

touch should always be in response to the child's need;

touch should always be appropriate to the age and stage of development of the child;

touch should always be with a child's permission;

Do things of a personal nature for children that they can do for themselves or that their parent can do for them.

Physically restrain a child/young person unless the restraint is to:

Prevent physical injury of the child/other children/visitors/other club members or yourself.

In all circumstances physical restraint must be appropriate and reasonable; otherwise the action can be defined as assault.

Make sexually suggestive comments to or within earshot of a child.

The Holmes Chapel Camera Club has final discretion as to whether or not accept an entry if that entry may be deemed offensive.

The Holmes Chapel Camera Club may, from time-to-time, amend the above policy, to take account of the wishes of the Annual General Meeting

29.11.07