



## **White Sheet Radio Flying Club Safeguarding Policy**

Any individuals flying at White Sheet, including WSRFC members, parents, guardians, and carers, are required to adhere to BMFA and club policies and guidelines aimed at promoting the welfare and care of children and vulnerable adults.

A "child" is anyone under 18.

A "vulnerable adult" is 18 or older, unable to care for themselves or protect against harm. (A vulnerable adult can also be a temporary designation covering persons who may, for instance, be recovering from illness or medical treatment.)

WSRFC prioritises the welfare of children and vulnerable adults, by adhering to statutory responsibilities and government guidelines.

Juniors must be supervised at all times by a responsible adult. The level of supervision is to be commensurate with the individuals age, maturity, capability and level of experience.

No child or vulnerable adult shall be permitted to undertake any activity which might place them at risk. In any event, prior consultation with their parent, guardian or carer must take place if there is any doubt of the individual's abilities to undertake a specific activity.

No senior member is to be expected to assume responsibility for a child or a vulnerable adult.

Notwithstanding the requirements of the previous paragraph, should a member discover a child or vulnerable adult that is unsupervised then he/she must assume responsibility for that person's safety in the first instance. The situation should then be rectified as soon as possible by seeking out the parent, guardian, carer or nominated supervisor. Any instance of such an occurrence is to be reported to the club committee as soon as possible, a record made of the occurrence and held on file by the Club Secretary.

Whilst supervising children or vulnerable adults, members should avoid placing themselves in a position that could be open to misinterpretation or question in accordance with BMFA policy. The policy is there to protect all of the clubs members as well as the children and vulnerable adults.

Should any member, parent, guardian, carer or the person themselves have concerns about the welfare of children or vulnerable adults then he or she is to contact the Membership Secretary, Club Chairman or any of the helplines at the end of this document.

You'll also find full contact details in your welcome letter. Alternatively, any member of the WSRFC management committee can be reached via the contact page on the club's website:

[whitesheet.bmfa.club](http://whitesheet.bmfa.club)

WSRFC will:

- Ensure the safety and well-being of all members.
- Respect all individuals.
- Implement robust safeguarding measures.
- Encourage all involved to recognise and respond to concerns.

- Maintain accurate records and ensure they are securely stored digitally by the designated committee member.
- Recruit and appoint responsible leaders.
- Share information with stakeholders.

Failure to comply with the points outlined above may result in the immediate termination of membership, (or in temporary exclusion from the club for a specified period, subject to conditions set by the Committee). All reported transgressions will be considered, with a final decision made by the WSRFC Committee.

### **Note to Parents, Guardians and Carers:**

*“Whilst this Club has a duty to take all reasonable steps to ensure the general welfare and protection of children and vulnerable adult members, in particular during the actual act of model aircraft flying and associated pre-flight and post-flight procedures, the Club will not undertake the responsibilities of those acting in the role of guardians or carers unless specifically arranged and with written permission given by the parent or carer.*


*A child or vulnerable adult as detailed above must always be accompanied by a parent, guardian, or other person who has been designated in writing to the club in advance.*

*Should your child have any special medical or physical needs you are required to advise the Club in writing.*

*Should physical contact be required during model flying for instructional or any other purpose these will be explained to you, and you will be required to record your agreement in writing defining the type and limits of contact.*

*Should the Club wish to use a photographic image of your child; the Club will follow the guidelines laid down by the NSPCC Child Protection in Sport*

- If a photograph is published, we will avoid naming the child in full.
- We will ask for written parental consent to use an image of a young person. This ensures that parents are aware the image of their child is solely representing the sport.
- In addition, written consent will be required before publication of a photographic image of a child.

*When applying to join WSRFC, the membership form must be countersigned by the parent or guardian if the applicant is under 18 years of age, or by the authorised carer if the applicant is a vulnerable adult. This signature signifies acceptance of WSRFC membership conditions. (WSRFC Club Handbook, accessible at  [whitesheet.bmfa.club](http://whitesheet.bmfa.club))*

*Should you wish to discuss any issue, have any concerns or have suggestions on how we may improve our policies, then please contact the committee.*

### Monitoring:

WSRFC regularly reviews this Safeguarding Policy, considering changes in legislation or significant events

### 1. NSPCC Helpline

For concerns about a child's welfare or safeguarding advice

 **0808 800 5000**

 [nspcc.org.uk](https://www.nspcc.org.uk)

(Available to adults and young people)

### 2. Childline (for children and young people themselves)

 **0800 1111**

 [childline.org.uk](https://www.childline.org.uk)

Confidential, free, 24/7

### 3. Local Authority Children's Services / Social Care

Each council has a safeguarding team

Contact your local authority's Children's Services Safeguarding Team:

#### Wiltshire

**0300 456 0108** (Mon-Fri, 8:30am - 5pm): or **0300 456 0100** (out-of-hours), with an email option at

 [Integratedfrontdoor@wiltshire.gov.uk](mailto:Integratedfrontdoor@wiltshire.gov.uk) for less urgent matters.

#### Somerset & Avon

**(0300 123 2224** (Mon-Fri, 8:30am - 5pm): or **0300 123 23 27** (out-of-hours) with an email option at

 [childrens@somerset.gov.uk](mailto:childrens@somerset.gov.uk) for less urgent matters.

#### Dorset


**01305 228558** (Mon-Fri, 8:30am - 5pm): or **01305 221000** (out-of-hours/emergency)

If the child is known to social care, contact their specific locality team e.g.,

 [dorchesterlocality@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:dorchesterlocality@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk) for Dorchester

### 4. Police (Emergency and Non-Emergency)

 999 — if a child or vulnerable person is in immediate danger

 101 — to report concerns where there is no immediate risk

### 5. Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) guidance

Not a helpline as such, but a reference point for concerns about suitability to work with children or vulnerable adults:

 [gov.uk/dba](https://www.gov.uk/dba)

If you are concerned about the welfare of a child or vulnerable adult and feel unable to raise this within the club, or believe the matter is urgent, please contact one of the external organisations listed above.