



Peace Education Scotland,
c/o Scottish Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament
PO Box 3620, Glasgow, G73 9FQ
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Peace Education Scotland - Charity number SC046853
Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy

Introduction

Peace Education Scotland is committed to the protection of children and regards the safeguarding and promoting the interests and wellbeing of children as of paramount concern. We are also committed to the protection of vulnerable children from exploitative relationships.

Peace Education Scotland consider it is the duty of the organisation, to prevent the physical, sexual or emotional abuse or neglect of all children with whom they come into contact, including reporting any abuse discovered or suspected.

1. Who needs protection?

Children and young under the age of 16 and young people between the ages of 16 and 18 who are affected by disability or who are vulnerable.

2. What is child abuse?

The definition of child abuse adopted in Scottish Government guidance is:

Abuse and neglect are forms of maltreatment of a child. Somebody may abuse or neglect a child by inflicting or failing to act to prevent, significant harm to the child. Children may be abused in a family or in an institutional setting, by those known to them, or more rarely by a stranger. Assessments will need to consider whether abuse has occurred or is likely to occur.

Peace Education Scotland recognise that abuse can occur under the following headings:

- Physical Abuse
- Neglect
- Emotional Abuse
- Sexual Abuse

3. What should be done by individuals representing Peace Education Scotland if it is thought a child or young person is at risk of abuse?

Support to the child or young person is vital. They should be listened to with care, but not asked any unnecessary questions. It is important that what the child or young person is saying is taken seriously, and that they are advised that information will need to be passed on.

Grounds of concern must be reported immediately to the secretary of the charity - currently Arthur West.

The secretary will then take steps to pass the information on to the relevant person or organisation who will investigate the concerns.

If possible concerns should be passed to the secretary of Peace Education Scotland on the same day the concerns arise.

Write down the nature of your concern and anything the child or young person may have told you.

In so far as possible note the words used by the child or young person.

Also please sign and date any notes taken.

Anyone who is representing Peace Education Scotland and who is unhappy with the response of the secretary should contact the local Social Work Office and outline your concerns and the basis for them.

4. Confidentiality

If any child or young person is at risk of harm, this will always override a professional or organisational requirement to keep information confidential. Those employed or involved with the organisation have a responsibility to act to make sure that a child whose safety or welfare may be at risk is protected from harm. Children, young people and their parents will always be told this.

5. Action to be taken by the secretary of Peace Education Scotland

Secretary of Peace Education Scotland must contact the local Social Work office in relation to all cases of suspected or alleged abuse.

If the local Social Work office is closed then Social Work standby service should be contacted.

If the secretary of Peace Education Scotland is unhappy with the Social Work response - contact should be made with Police Scotland or the Children Panels reporter to outline concerns.

6. Follow up Action

It is the duty of Social Work services to investigate matters of concern in relation to the protection of children and young people.

When a crime is alleged to have taken place the matter is likely to be investigated by the police.

The investigating social worker / police officer may require speaking to the person with whom the concerns originated. This process should be co-operated with fully.

7. Emergency

If you, a Peace Education Scotland representative are concerned about the immediate safety of a child or young person, for example a child at risk of serious harm or injury, contact Police Scotland immediately. Do not delay as this could result in serious injury to the child.

8. What should be done if there are concerns about anyone within the Peace Education Scotland charity?

If there are concerns about any person from within the Peace Education Scotland charity and it is felt the matter needs to be investigated immediately - contact should be made with secretary of Peace Education Scotland to outline concerns and the basis for them.

If concerns involve the secretary of Peace Education Scotland - 'this should be reported to the chair of Peace Education Scotland or to Social Work / Police.

9. Training and Awareness

Anyone involved in Peace Education Scotland as a volunteer, Committee member or staff member

will be made aware of the existence of the Child Protection Policy and their responsibilities in relation to the child protection process.

This will be done in the following ways:

- Through the provision of training.
- By issuing a copy of the policy to all new staff members.
- Publicising its existence in strategic parts of the office.

10. Production of materials

Care is taken to make material age appropriate and avoid unnecessary fear or alarm while at the same time not concealing the facts.

11. Communications

It is the clear policy and practice of Peace Education Scotland not to communicate directly with individual children via social media.

Named Responsible Person: Arthur West

Position in organization: Secretary

Address:

C/ O Scottish CND Office

c/o PO Box 3620, Glasgow, G73 9FQ

Telephone number: 07826 127 759

In absence of responsible person please contact Scottish CND office on 0141 357 1529

Safeguarding Policy Statement

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Purpose of Policy Statement

The purpose of this policy statement is:

- to protect children and young people who receive services from Peace Education Scotland from harm.
- to provide staff and volunteers and children and young people and their families with the overarching principles that guide the approach of Peace Education Scotland to child protection.

This policy applies to anyone who works for Peace Education Scotland in a paid or voluntary sector.

Legal Framework

This policy has been drawn up with reference to child protection legislation and policy.

Supporting Documents

This policy should be read alongside our child protection policy and health and safety policy documents.

We believe that:

- children and young people should never experience abuse of any kind.
- we have a responsibility to promote the welfare of all children and young people to keep them safe and to practise in a way that protects them.

We recognise that:

- the welfare of children is paramount in all the work we do and in all the decisions we take
- some children are additionally vulnerable because of the impact of previous experiences, their level of dependency, communication needs or other issues.

We will seek to keep children and young people safe by:

- valuing, listening to and respecting them.
- using our procedures to manage any allegations against staff and volunteers appropriately.