



Child Protection Policy Statement

GANDL (Glencaple & Lowther Development Group) Arts, Culture and Entertainment team work on exciting, fun opportunities to bring the 9 village communities of Abington, Crawford, Crawfordjohn, Elvanfoot, Lamington, Leadhills, Roberton, Wanlockhead and Wiston together.

The GANDL organisers and volunteers are committed to ensuring safe environments for children and young people and believe that it is always unacceptable for a child or young person to experience abuse of any kind. We recognise our responsibility to safeguard the welfare of all children and young people, by a commitment to recommend best practice which protects them.

This policy applies to our Committee Members, volunteers, or anyone working on behalf of GANDL.

We recognise that:

- the welfare of the child/young person is paramount
- all children, regardless of age, disability, gender, racial heritage, religious belief, sexual orientation or identity, have the right to equal protection from all types of harm or abuse
- working in partnership with children, young people, their parents, carers and other agencies is essential in promoting young people's welfare

The purpose of the policy:

- to provide protection for the children and young people who participate in our events, including the children of GANDL volunteers
- to provide volunteers with guidance on procedures they should adopt in the event that they suspect a child or young person may be experiencing, or be at risk of, harm

We will seek to safeguard children and young people by:

- valuing them, listening to and respecting them
- adopting child protection guidelines through procedures and safe working practice for staff and volunteers
- recruiting volunteers safely, ensuring all necessary checks are made when children are participating in activities unaccompanied by their parents/a responsible adult
- sharing information about concerns with agencies who need to know, and involving parents and children appropriately
- providing effective management for volunteers through supervision, support and training

GANDL will review this policy each year in January or sooner in light of any changes in legislation or guidance.