July 2026

Children and Young People's Safeguarding Policy

Introduction

Root-and-Branch Out is a community organisation in Rutland. We work with many children.

You might have met us before at Forest School, Growers Row shared garden or at the Community Fridges. We work in our Rutland Community.

Root-and-Branch Out CIC makes sure that children and young people:

- Have the right to a safe childhood
- Are treated fairly
- Are listened to
- Are able to be healthy
- Are able to make a positive contribution to a strong and safe community

As part of our work, we have a Safeguarding Policy to make sure that we keep children and young people safe.

Who can you talk to?

If you are upset, hurt or worried about something that has happened to you or someone else, then there are people who can help you.

You can speak to any adult who works for Root-and-Branch Out if you have any worries. You do not have to keep them a secret.

At Root-and-Branch Out the are 2 people, Claire and Alex, called Designated Safeguarding Leads. Claire and Alex will listen to you and help you feel supported.

When you talk to one of us, we won't tell everyone about it. If we need to tell anyone, we only tell other people who can help you.

There may be times when they need to get some more support from other people like Children's Social Care (Social Workers) or the Police. This is because they cannot do everything on their own and might need help from others to help to sort out the situation.

You could also contact on the phone:

Childline: 0800 11 11

NSPCC: 0808 800 5000

childline

ONLINE, ON THE PHONE, ANYTIME

childline.org.uk | 0800 1111

NSPCC

Definitions

Child

A child is under the age of 18, as defined in the United Nations convention on the Rights of a Child. This means that **Children have rights**. Have a look at the poster about this on our website.

LEARN ABOUT YOUR RIGHTS!
The UN Convention on the Rights of the Child

There are four areas children have the right for protection in, they are:

1. Physical abuse

Like **hitting, smacking, throwing, burning, biting** and **other harm that hurts**.

2. Sexual abuse

Like being **touched innapropriately on your body** or being asked to **act in a way that is inappropriate**.

3. Psychological or Emotional abuse

This means that someone **upsets you and makes you feel bad**. This could be someone in your family. This can make you feel sad and worthless.

4. Neglect or Omission to act

This could be that you do not feel **warm and safe** and **fed properly** or **not taking you to the Doctor when you need to**. There are many ways that a child can be neglected and it is really important that we know so we can get help.