



SILVERY LIGHT SAILING CHILD PROTECTION POLICY

POLICY

The welfare of the child or young person is paramount.

Silvery Light Sailing Ltd and its members are committed to:

- The safekeeping of all in their care - especially children and young people.
- Recognising that all children and young people, whatever their age, culture, disability, gender, language, racial origin, religious belief and/or sexual identity, have the right to protection from abuse.
- Taking seriously and responding appropriately to all suspicions and allegations of inappropriate behaviour.
- Supporting those who work with children and young people.
- Encourage and support an environment where children and young people feel safe and comfortable
- Exercising its duty to work with other agencies and share information with them. e.g. Child Protection Committees, PSNI, NSPCC.
- Recognising its role as one of referral not investigation.

PROCEDURES

- Any member of staff who receives a disclosure of abuse or suspects that abuse may have occurred **MUST** report it immediately to the designated person.
- Staff must not investigate abuse but it may be necessary to ask straightforward, non-leading questions of children and young people where possible abuse has taken place. Notes should be taken and passed to the designated person. They should state date, time, people present as well as what was said. It may be appropriate to make a note on a skin map of any marks or bruises.
- Staff must not give an undertaking of absolute confidentiality. They have a professional responsibility to share relevant information about the protection of children and young people with other professionals, particularly investigative agencies. If a child or young person confides in a member of staff and requests the information is kept secret, it is important the member of staff tells the child or young person that he or she has a responsibility to refer cases of alleged abuse to the appropriate agencies for the child's sake. Within that context, the child or young person should be assured that the matter will be disclosed only to people who need to know it.

GUIDELINES ON GOOD PRACTICE FOR STAFF

Staff are in a position of trust and authority and have a responsibility to ensure that this unequal balance of power is not used for personal advantage or gratification.

Staff should behave as role models using appropriate vocal and body language and should not engage in banter, scapegoating, or personal comment except where required by curriculum or health and safety issues.

Staff working in one to one situations with children and young people may be more vulnerable to allegations. Every attempt should be made to ensure the safety and security needs of both staff and young people are met.

Staff should work and be seen to work in an open and transparent way.

Staff should not use their position to intimidate, threaten, coerce or undermine children and young people.

When physical contact is made with children or young people this should be in response to their needs at the time, be of limited duration and appropriate for their age, stage of development, gender, ethnicity and background.

Extra caution is required where it is known that a child or young person has suffered abuse or neglect. In the child or young person's view physical contact might be associated with such experiences and lead to staff being vulnerable to allegations of abuse. It is recognised that many such children and young people are extremely needy and may seek out inappropriate physical contact.

The general culture of "limited touch" should be adapted, where appropriate, to the individual's requirements. Children and young people with special needs, for example, may require more physical assistance.

Never engage in horseplay, tickling or fun fights.

Young people and children are entitled to privacy. However, there needs to be an appropriate level of supervision in order to safeguard them, satisfy health and safety considerations and ensure bullying and teasing does not occur. Supervision should be appropriate to the needs and age of the young people concerned.

All children and young people have the right to be treated with respect and dignity. Staff should not use any form of degrading treatment or punishment.

Staff should not do anything of a personal nature that the child or young person can do for themselves.

Silvery Light Sailing
Child Protection

Incident/Allegation Report

Form Details of person completing the form:

Name: _____ Position: _____

Address: _____

Contact Telephone number: _____

Date: _____

Details of child/young person:

Name: _____

Address: _____

Contact telephone number: _____

Age: _____ Date of Birth: _____

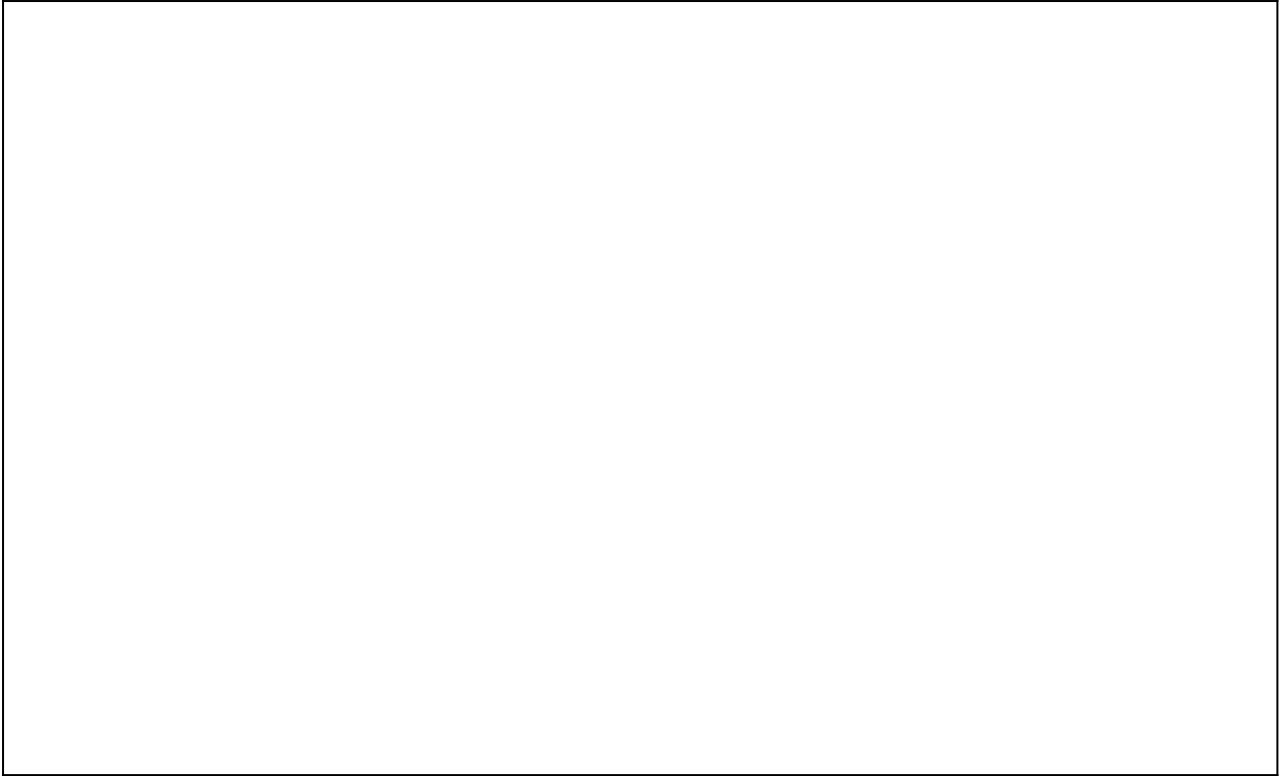
Location of incident or allegation: _____

Date of incident/allegation: _____ Time: _____

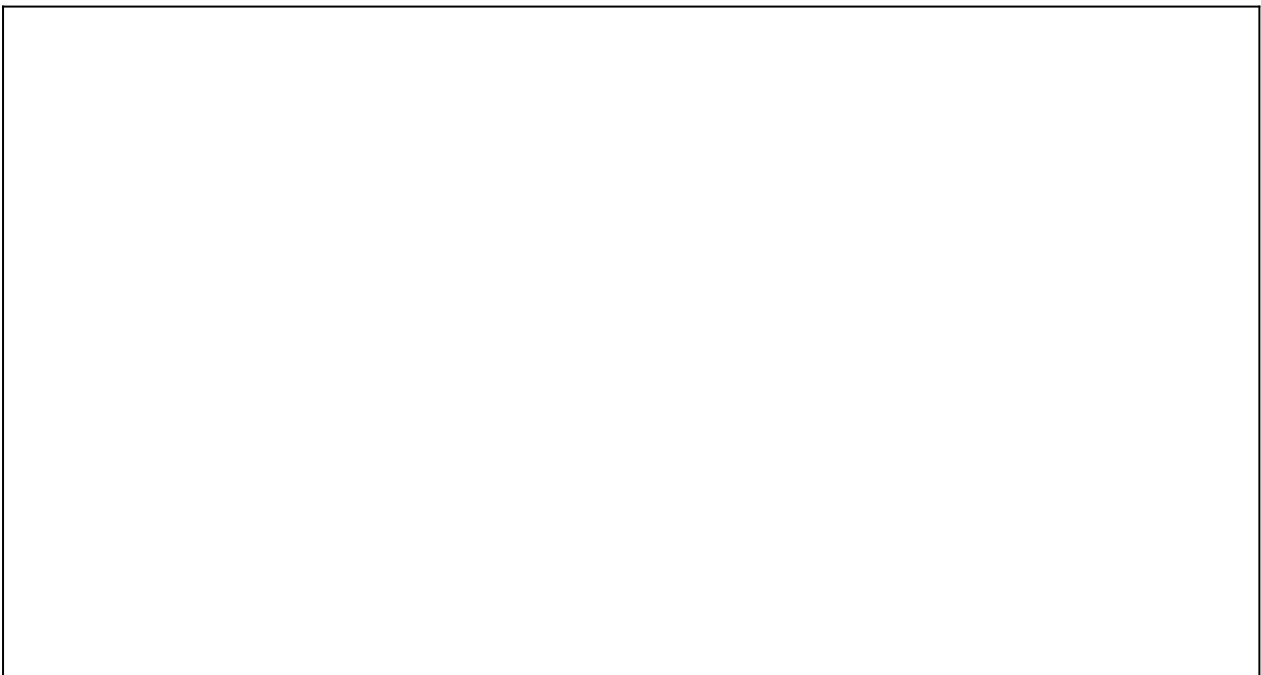
Details of incident or allegation as reported or observed by you:

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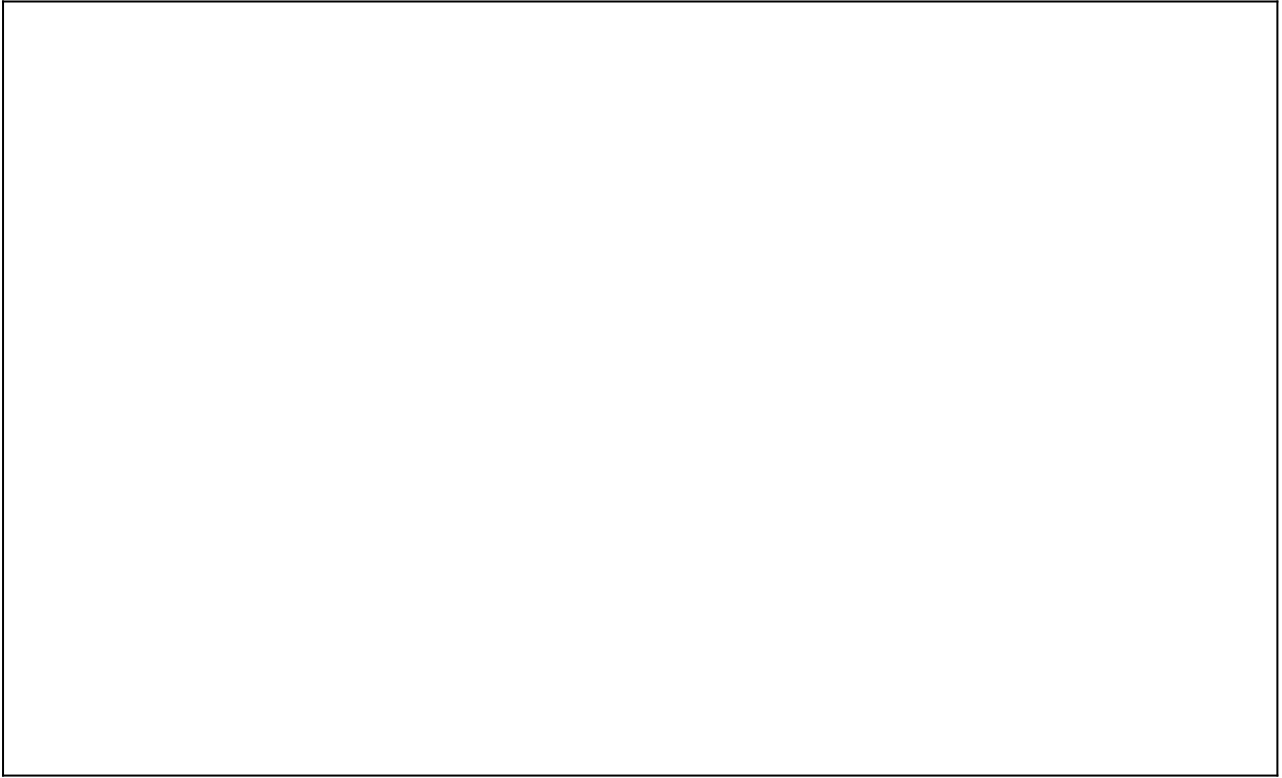
Action taken:

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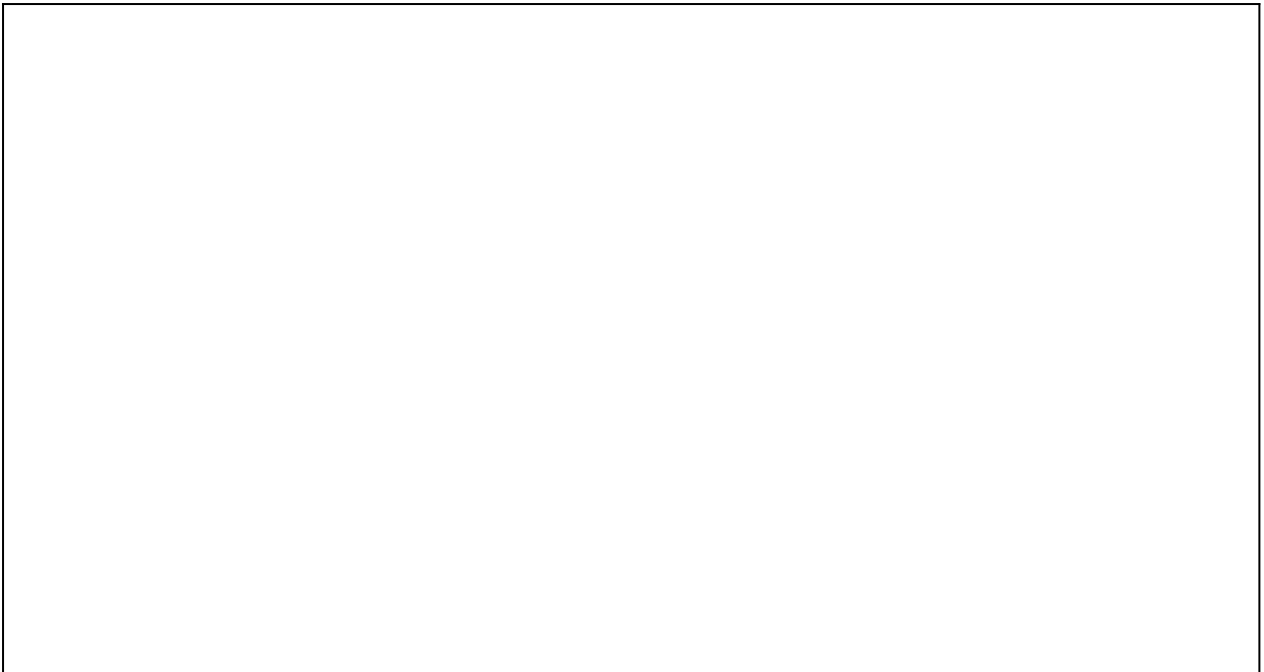
Action taken by: _____

Date: _____

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Action taken:



Action taken by: _____

Date: _____

