



## **CHILD PROTECTION POLICY**

### **Background**

Beverley Barracudas recognise that anyone may have the potential to abuse children in some way. Children are abused regardless of age, racial origin, ability or sexual identity. It is important; therefore, to have in place a policy that will ensure unsuitable people are prevented from working with children. Also, that staff whether paid or working in a voluntary capacity have a basic knowledge and understanding of child protection and how to respond to allegations of abuse.

### **Policy Statement**

Beverley Barracudas will:

- Accept the moral and legal responsibility to implement procedures to provide a duty of care for children, safeguard their well-being and protect them from abuse.
- Respect and promote the rights, wishes and feelings of children.
- Recruit, train and supervise its employees and volunteers to adopt best practice to safeguard and protect children from abuse and themselves against potentially false allegations.
- Respond to any allegations appropriately and implement the appropriate disciplinary and appeals procedures.
- A child is defined as anyone under 18 years of age (The Children Act 1989).

The guidance given in the procedures is based on the following principles:

- The welfare of children and young people is paramount.
- All children regardless of culture, ability, gender, language, racial origin, religious belief and/or sexual identify have the right to protection from abuse.
- It is the responsibility of Social Services to determine whether or not abuse has taken place, but it is everyone's responsibility to report any concerns.
- All reported incidents of poor practice and allegations should be taken seriously and responded to swiftly and appropriately.

### **Staff Knowledge and Understanding**

All staff working fully, part-time or in a voluntary capacity will be made aware of this policy.

### **Minimum Operating Standards**

As a minimum operating standard all staff and volunteers working with children will have the opportunity to be working towards achieving the following training:

- Child Protection awareness and training
- First Aid
- Sports Equality Adopted: