

Caring Role

Abuse happens and not just to children. The Cornwall YFC Child Protection Policy is set out to protect u18s or vulnerable adults. However, many cases of abuse do not surface until later in life and are often disclosed to a close friend. Please read the following information, it is especially relevant if you are a minor or someone who is working with minors, some of the information may help support a friend in the future.

There are four types of abuse:

Physical: Where young people are made to suffer physical pain, injury or death. This is usually recognised through frequent unexplained injuries.

Sexual: Where adults seek sexual gratification from children or young people. This can produce change in personality, a quiet child becoming aggressive or a boisterous child becoming quiet. Sexually explicit talk and behaviour inappropriate to the child's age.

Emotional: When young people are harmed by lack of love or affection or are in receipt of threats, taunts, bullying etc. Often causing low esteem and lack of confidence, difficulty in forming friendships. Can be withdrawn, depressed and a loner.

Neglect: Where a child's basic physical and psychological needs are not met. This will sometimes show as poor health and hygiene, often unsupervised, constant hunger and inappropriate clothing for the conditions.

Who Cares?

Cornwall YFC cares about you!

We want to make sure that you and your fellow members of YFC both safe and that your time with YFC is enjoyable.

Please ensure that you read this carefully and where possible take up the relevant training opportunities available.

Full copies of the Child Protection Policy, Health & Safety, Risk Assessment Templates and Equal Opportunities Policy are available from the County Office.

Remember that Young Farmers' Clubs are about you. Help create a safe environment for yourself and others to enjoy all that YFC can provide.

**CORNWALL
YFC**

**Pavilion Centre
Royal Cornwall Showground
Wadebridge
Cornwall
PL27 7JE**

**Tel: 01208 893080
Email: office@cornwallyfc.co.uk
www.cornwallyfc.co.uk**

**CORNWALL
YFC**

**WHO
CARES?**

"Fun, Learning & Achievement"

Who Cares?

Cornwall YFC cares about you!

Welcome to Cornwall YFC. We care about you but you have a duty to care about you too! As a member you also have a duty of care for your fellow members. The overall responsibility of your Club may rest with your Chairman but you as a Club member must support them and ensure the safety of your members at all times.

Practical Advice

1. Check all premises for hazards!

Broken glass, loose carpets, wobbly chairs, poor lighting etc. Be it at your venue, an outside visit or a fun event, if you see something that could cause harm, take action or inform someone who can.

2. Risk Assessments

For all Club meetings and new activities ensure someone has carried out a full risk assessment. For example, clay pigeon shoots are great but not if you are in the line of fire! Be aware other's actions can create risk, if something causes doubt, check it out. Risk assessment forms and advice are available from the County office.

3. Fire Safety

Are there fire instructions by the door of your venue? What would you do in the case of fire? Make sure you know where the exit points are.

4. First Aid

Where is the nearest first aid box? Is it up to date? Could you use it? Find out who can

use it or better still get training to use it (speak to the Kelly in SFL). If there is an accident ensure it is recorded on a YFC Accident Reporting Form, noting date, time, injury, cause, action and names of those involved.

5. Attendance

All u18 members have a parental consent and medical details form, remember to keep a Club copy. You may also need additional parent consent forms for any special activities arranged. Does your Club keep an attendance book? In the event of a fire would you know if all the members got out safely? It could be you still stuck in the loo!

6. Transport

Thank you if you provide transport for your fellow members. Sharing transport is not only cost effective, it is essential for the survival of rural youth clubs.

Be a safe driver at all times. Discourage "Lewis Hamilton" types by refusing to travel with them.

Remember it is never safe to drink and drive, stick to soft drinks when responsible for others. If transporting u18s ensure they sit in the rear of the vehicle if possible and have another adult with you in the front.

Never overload your car and ensure that everyone wears a seat belt. Encourage parents to transport u18s to and from venues. If you transport a minor on a one to one basis ensure their parents are notified and agree.

Remember to check the seat belt laws and use of booster seats for junior members too.

7. Personal Safety

Be aware of how other members get home. Discourage members from walking home unaccompanied. Do not leave a member alone to wait for a lift. Be aware of alcohol! It alters the state of mind and the perception of safety! Never encourage or purchase alcohol for u18s and keep an eye on those who choose to over indulge.

If you have a concern or something of concern has been brought to your attention there are a number of steps you should follow.

1. Stay calm, it takes great courage to talk about abuse. If talking with a minor (u18) make it clear that you cannot promise confidentiality but that you will ensure that they get the help and support they need.
2. Give them individual attention and reassure them that you will not blame or judge.
3. Never physically examine anyone.
4. Do not question the person involved; you can ask them to clarify but leave the questions to the professionals.
5. Make hand written notes as soon as possible of the discussion, include date, time and your signature.
6. Encourage and support the individual in contacting the appropriate authorities such as the police or social services or calling one of the help lines listed in this leaflet.

Kidscape: 08451 205 204

NSPCC: 0808 800 5000

Childline: 0800 1111