



THE CHRISTIAN
HERITAGE CENTRE
at Stonyhurst

The Christian Heritage Centre at Stonyhurst

SAFEGUARDING POLICY STATEMENT

*For where your treasure is
there will your heart be also
Matthew 6:19-21*

This policy was reviewed by the Board of Trustees on 23rd June 2023

Signed:

1. Introduction

- The Christian Heritage Centre at Stonyhurst (CHC Ltd) has as its mission the spiritual and intellectual formation of adults in the Catholic faith. One of the fundamental tenets of this faith is that the human person is created in the image of God. As such, each person bears an inviolable dignity from the moment of their conception to the moment of the natural end and should be respected and supported at all stages of their development through life. Thus, ensuring the safety and protection of its beneficiaries is an essential aspect of the charity's work.
- CHC Ltd developed Theodore House as a suitable space for this work and activity, and the facility is therefore intended as a place of spiritual and intellectual renewal. Most of the charity's activities take place at Theodore House, but not exclusively so.
- CHC Ltd's activities are primarily oriented to adults, and currently only include one programme which is offered to children, this being the Christian Leadership Formation programme for Sixth Form students.

2. Subsidiary companies

- CHC Ltd owns and controls a subsidiary company, The Christian Heritage Centre at Stonyhurst Trading Limited (CHC Trading). CHC Trading operates Theodore House on a commercial basis, providing accommodation and facilities for retreats and conferences, whilst also servicing CHC Ltd's events.
- As such, CHC Ltd has a duty to ensure that reasonable measures are taken by CHC Trading to safeguard children, young people and adults at risk who may access its services under the auspices of third-party, commercial clients of CHC Trading, and to ensure that any safeguarding concerns or incidents arising within CHC Trading are reported directly to CHC Ltd.
- The measures taken by CHC Trading to safeguard children and adults at risk in the course of its commercial operation are laid out in the company's own Accommodation Policy, which is reviewed annually by CHC Ltd's Board of Trustees.
- CHC Trading's operation is supervised on the ground by CHC Ltd's Director, who, as the CHC Ltd's designated safeguarding lead, has oversight of any concerns or incidents that arise within CHC Trading.

3. Purpose and Scope

The purpose of this policy statement is:

- to protect CHC Ltd's sixth form student beneficiaries and any other children or adults at risk of harm who take part in CHC Ltd's activities from harm;
- to provide staff and volunteers, and children, young people and adults at risk of harm, as well as their families, with the overarching principles that guide our approach to safeguarding.

This policy applies to anyone working on behalf of CHC Ltd, including the board of trustees, paid staff and volunteers, as well as to CHC Trading staff who provide services to CHC Ltd.

4. Legal Framework

This policy has been drawn up on the basis of legislation, policy and guidance that seeks to protect children, young people and adults at risk of harm in England. A summary of the key legislation and guidance is available from <https://learning.nspcc.org.uk/child-protection-system> and <https://www.anncrafttrust.org/resources/safeguarding-adults-legislation>.

5. Supporting Documents

This policy statement should be read alongside our organisational policies, procedures, guidance and other related documents:

- Safeguarding Procedures
- Staff Code of Conduct
- Code of Conduct for the Christian Leadership Formation programme
- Safer recruitment
- Whistleblowing

6. Policy Statement:

We believe that all human beings are accorded an inviolable dignity by virtue of their creation in the image of God, and that it is incumbent on every adult to protect and respect the dignity of those who are vulnerable, especially children, young people and adults at risk of harm.

Consequently, the welfare and well-being of any children, young people and adults at risk of harm attending CHC Ltd's events is paramount, and we are committed to ensuring that these are safeguarded.

7. Safeguarding Principles:

- CHC Ltd will make every effort to prevent harm to all its beneficiaries, in particular to children and adults at risk of harm.
- The welfare of the child / adult at risk of harm is paramount in all the work that we do and in all the decisions we take.
- Working in partnership with children, young people and adults at risk of harm, along with parents, carers and other agencies is essential in promoting their welfare.
- All children and adults at risk of harm, regardless of their characteristics, will be treated with equal dignity and respect.

8. Safeguarding Framework:

- **Responsibility** for safeguarding is held by the CHC Ltd's designated safeguarding lead, together with their deputy, and a lead trustee;
- **Staff and volunteers** are safely recruited with all the necessary checks;
- **Staff and volunteers** are trained and supported to ensure that they know about and follow our policies and procedures and behaviour codes confidently and competently;
- **Information** is recorded, stored and used in line with data protection legislation and guidance;
- **Information about safeguarding and good practice** is shared with children, young people and adults at risk of harm, families and carers, making sure that they know where to go for help if they have a concern;
- **Safeguarding procedures** outline how concerns and relevant information are shared with agencies who need to know, and how children, young people and adults at risk of harm, families and carers are appropriately involved;
- **Safeguarding procedures** provide an appropriate process for the management of any allegations against staff and volunteers;
- **Whistle blowing** measures are clearly outlined;
- **A welcoming and safe physical environment** is maintained in Theodore House;
- **Our Catholic ethos** promotes mutual trust and respect.

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We are committed to reviewing our policy and good practice annually.