Helmsley Open Air Pool

Child Protection Policy

Helmsley Open Air Swimming Pool fully recognises its responsibilities for child protection.

This policy applies to all Staff, Trustees, and Volunteers working at the Pool.
There are five main elements to the policy:

* Ensuring the practice safe recruitment in checking the suitability of Staff and Volunteers to work with children.
* Raising awareness of child protection issues and equipping children with the skills needed to keep them safe.
* Developing and then implementing procedures for identifying and reporting cases, or suspected cases, of abuse.
* Supporting children who report abuse.
* Establishing a safe environment in which children can play and enjoy themselves.

It is recognised that because of the relaxed environment of the Pool Staff may become aware of children who may have been the subject of abuse.
The Trustees, Lifeguards and adult Volunteers will therefore:

* Establish and maintain an environment where children feel secure.
* Ensure children know that there are approachable adults who can be available if they are worried or concerned about any abuse topic.
* Ensure that a designated Trustee is appointed as a Child Protection Officer for the Pool. Formal training may be a consideration for this position.
* Ensure every member of Staff and all Volunteers are aware of the name and contact details of the designated Child Protection Trustee.
* Ensure all Staff and Volunteers understand their responsibilities in being alert to the signs of abuse and responsibility for referring any concerns to the designated Child Protection Trustee.
* Ensure that Staff and Volunteers keep a written record of concerns about any child using the Pool who they consider may be in danger from abuse.
* Ensure all such records are kept securely until handed to a responsible officer of the Pool on a daily basis.
* Develop and ensure the following of procedures where an allegation is made against a member of Staff or Volunteer.
* Ensure safe recruitment practices are always followed.

**Use of Photographic/Filming Equipment at Helmsley Pool**

To date there has been no evidence of inappropriate photography at the Pool. The situation is constantly monitored and if ever it is considered that photography which might be considered inappropriate is attempted the Pool Manager, backed by the Trustees, has full authority to stop any photographic activity. This incident should then be recorded in the Day Book and reported to the Child Protection appointed Trustee.