

Dealing with disclosures and concerns about a child or young person

Statement of Intent

This is the Dealing with disclosures and concerns about a child or young person Policy Statement of the:

Northern Ireland Raspberry Jam (Registered Charity no. NIC107983)

The Northern Ireland Raspberry Jam Trustee Board is committed to ensuring the safety, protection, and wellbeing of all children and young people involved in its events. This policy outlines the organisation's approach to responding to disclosures or concerns relating to a child or young person.

All volunteers must be prepared to listen calmly and respectfully to any child who shares a concern, avoiding leading questions or promises of confidentiality. Disclosures must be recorded promptly, accurately, and shared only with the appropriate safeguarding personnel.

All concerns must be reported immediately to the Designated Safeguarding Officer, who will assess the situation and take appropriate action. Where necessary, concerns will be referred to statutory agencies such as social services or the police. The welfare of the child will always be the primary consideration. The Trustee Board will ensure that anyone involved in a disclosure is appropriately supported throughout the process

This policy applies to all volunteers and trustees of the Northern Ireland Raspberry Jam.

Signature of Chair:



Name: James Dougan

Email: james.dougan@niraspberryjam.com

Date of Signature: 04/04/2025

Signature of DSO:



Name: Adam Cunningham

Email: adam.cunningham@niraspberryjam.com

Date of Signature: 04/04/2025

Introduction

The Northern Ireland Raspberry Jam is committed to ensuring the safety and well-being of all children and young people attending our events. This policy outlines how concerns and disclosures should be handled.

Responding to disclosures

If a child or young person shares a concern:

- Listen carefully and remain calm.
- Do not ask leading questions or make promises of confidentiality.
- Reassure them that they have done the right thing in speaking up.
- Record the details factually as soon as possible.
- If possible, have another volunteer there to verify your recording

Reporting and Recording

- All concerns must be reported immediately to the Designated Safeguarding Officer (DSO).
- Record details accurately, including dates, times and direct quotes where possible.
- Reports should be kept confidential and only shared with the appropriate authorities.

Taking Action

- The DSO will assess the concern and determine the appropriate course of action.
- If necessary, concerns will be referred to social services or the police
- The child's welfare is the primary consideration.

Support

- Volunteers will receive guidance on handling disclosures.
- Support will be provided to anyone involved in a disclosure.

Review

This policy will be reviewed annually or in response to any significant changes in the safeguarding legislation.

For further guidance, contact the Designated Safeguarding Officer (DSO).