

**Children's Safeguarding Policy for  
Shropshire Sheep Breeders' Association Limited ("SSBA")**

1. Introduction

- 1.1. The purpose of the SSBA is the promotion of the Shropshire Sheep breed by the encouragement of breeding of Shropshire Sheep, maintenance of their purity and type and publication of a Flock Book. SSBA organises and participates in a range of activities in support of these objectives.
- 1.2. Some of these activities are intended to promote understanding and appreciation of Shropshire Sheep amongst children and young people, and there are other activities and events where children and young people participate as competitors or volunteers.
- 1.3. SSBA recognises its obligations arising from the Children Act 1989 and this document sets out SSBA policy in relation to compliance with the Act. It has been approved by the SSBA Council and is published on the SSBA website.

2. Definitions:

- 2.1. The Children Act 1989 definition of a child / children is: anyone who has not yet reached their 18th birthday, even if they are living independently, are a member of the armed forces or is in hospital. Adults at risk are defined as an adult who has needs for care and support (whether or not the SSBA is meeting any of those needs), is experiencing, or is at risk of, abuse or neglect, and as a result of those needs is unable to protect himself or herself against the abuse or neglect or the risk of it.

3. Child and Adult Abuse:

- 3.1. Children and adults may be vulnerable to neglect and abuse or exploitation from within their family and from individuals they come across in their daily lives.
- 3.2. There are four main categories of abuse, which are: sexual, physical, emotional abuse, and neglect. It is important to be aware of more specific types of abuse that fall within these categories, they are –
  - Bullying and cyberbullying
  - Child sexual exploitation
  - Child Criminal exploitation
  - Child trafficking
  - Domestic abuse
  - Female genital mutilation
  - Grooming
  - Historical abuse
  - Online abuse

4. Policy Statement:

- 4.1. The SSBA abides by the duty of care to safeguard and promote the welfare of children along with young and vulnerable people and is committed to safeguarding practices that reflects statutory responsibilities, government guidance and complies with best practice requirements and current legislation.
- 4.2. We recognise the welfare of children is paramount in all cases where our activities involve children. the work we do and in all the decisions we take.
- 4.3. All children, regardless of age, disability, gender reassignment, race, religion or belief, sex, or sexual orientation has an equal right to protection from all types of harm or abuse.
- 4.4. Some children are additionally vulnerable because of the impact of previous experiences, their level of dependency, communication needs or other issues
- 4.5. Working in partnership with children, young people, their parents, carers and other agencies is essential in promoting children and vulnerable adults' welfare.

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5. Application and Scope:
  - 5.1. The Policy applies to all Council Members, Officers (paid or unpaid) and volunteers acting on behalf of SSBA at, or in connection with, events and activities attended by or involving children, young and vulnerable persons.
  - 5.2. Hereinafter referred to as "Relevant SSBA Personnel".
  
6. Provisions:
  - 6.1. SSBA has appointed a Junior Co-ordinator who will lead compliance with this Policy, who will be supported by the Secretary
  - 6.2. The Junior Co-ordinator will review the application of the policy annually, and submit a Report to Council using any available information provided.
  - 6.3. For all SSBA activities and events it will be a condition of attendance for all children or vulnerable adults that they are always accompanied by a parent or guardian.
  - 6.4. A consent form (Appendix 1) will be completed by the parent or guardian before all activities run by the SSBA.
  - 6.5. For all SSBA activities and events it will be a condition of attendance for all children that their parent or guardian has consented to their child being photographed whilst undertaking the scheduled activities. Photographs taken at SSBA events and activities will not be published (including on social media) without prior parental consent. These matters will also be covered in the Consent Form at Appendix 1.
  - 6.6. Given the requirement in section 6.3 above, it will not be necessary for non-Relevant SSBA Personnel to undergo Disclosure and Barring services (DBS) checks.
  
7. Training:
  - 7.1. Where appropriate, Relevant SSBA Personnel will undergo training, which will be organised by SSBA at SSBA's expense.
  - 7.2. The requirement for training will be assessed annually by the Junior Co-ordinator.
  
8. Confidentiality and Information Sharing:
  - 8.1. Shropshire Sheep Breeders' Association & Flock Book Society expects all Relevant SSBA Personnel to maintain confidentiality.
  - 8.2. Information will only be shared in line with the General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR) and Data Protection.
  - 8.3. However, information should be shared with the relevant Authority on written request if a child or vulnerable person is deemed to be at risk of harm or contact made with the police if they are in immediate danger, or a crime has been committed.
  
9. Use of Mobile Telephones, Cameras, Digital Technology and Social Media:
  - 9.1. Relevant SSBA Personnel should be made aware that it is unlawful to photograph children and young people without the explicit consent of the person with parental responsibilities.
  - 9.2. Relevant SSBA Personnel should be made aware that no information is shared on social media without the consent of all involved such as the Press & Publicity Officer.
  
10. Whistleblowing:
  - 10.1. It is important that not only Relevant SSBA Personnel, but all Members have the confidence to come forward to speak or act if they are unhappy with anything.
  - 10.2. Whistle blowing occurs when a person raises a concern about dangerous or illegal activity, or any wrong- doing within their organisation. This includes concerns about another Member. All matters of this nature should be sent directly to the President of the SSBA.
  - 10.3. There is also a requirement by the SSBA to protect whistleblowers confidentiality.

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**11. Record Keeping:**

- 11.1. The Junior Co-ordinator will be responsible for the collection of completed Consent Forms before any activity to which this policy applies.
- 11.2. Should any concerns as to safeguarding matters be raised to the Junior Co-ordinator or any Relevant SSBA Personnel, then those matters must be brought to the attention of the SSBA Council by the Junior Co-ordinator. The Council will minute any discussions held and decisions made.
- 11.3. The Secretary will retain all records relating to the application of this policy.

**Important Contacts:**

**Trustee Lead for Safeguarding**

Position: The current President of the Shropshire Sheep Breeders Association

Email address: [president@shropshire-sheep.co.uk](mailto:president@shropshire-sheep.co.uk)

**Deputy Trustee Lead for Safeguarding (and main contact for all safeguarding matters)**

Name: Rosie Lee

Position : Junior Co-Ordinator

Email address: [juniors@shropshire-sheep.co.uk](mailto:juniors@shropshire-sheep.co.uk)

Telephone number: 07966 761 910

SSBA Registered office: Stable Views, Alderton, Montford Bridge, Shrewsbury, SY4 1AW

Lead Authority (based on registered office) : Leicestershire County Council (based on registered office)

**Police:**

Emergency – 999

Non-emergency – 101

NSPCC Helpline: 0808 800 5000

**Approval of policy:**

This policy was approved by SBA Council on 16<sup>th</sup> January 2023. Any adjustments or alterations to the policy must be approved by SSBA Council.

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APPENDIX 1 – CONSENT FORM

Below a two page Consent Form for use before all SSBA organised your person activities.

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**CONSENT FORM**

**1. Programme / Activity information:**

Date(s) of activity:	
Location:	
Description of activity / what young person will be doing:	
Purpose / objectives of the programme / activity(ies)	

**2. Young / Vulnerable person's details:**

Full name:	
Home address:	
Contact phone number:	
Email address:	
Date of birth:	
Gender:	

**3. Responsible Adult**

All young people attending this event need to be always accompanied by a parent or guardian.

Full name of Parent / Guardian:	
Home address:	
Contact phone number:	
Email address:	

**4. Emergency contact information:**

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If the SSBA needs to contact another person in the event of an emergency, who would you like us to contact?

Emergency contact name:	
Emergency contact home address:	
Emergency contact phone number:	
Emergency contact email address:	
Emergency contact relationship to young person:	
Emergency contact relationship to parent / guardian:	

**5. Parent / guardian consent (please sign as indicated at bottom of section):**

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• I agree to my child take part in the stated programme and proposed activities</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• I agree to the SSBA sharing my personal data if required to keep my child safe. I understand that only necessary information will be shared.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b><u>I agree / do not agree (please delete)</u></b> to my child / vulnerable person and / or myself being filmed or photographed during the programme. I understand that these photographs/media recordings may be used for publications, marketing, or posts made on social media.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• I understand that to stay safe and enjoy the programme my child and I must follow any safety rules or codes of conduct communicated to me (verbally or in writing) by programme staff.</li> </ul>
Print name:
Signature:
Date: