



Safeguarding Policy

The safety and wellbeing of everyone attending the event is of paramount importance, and is the shared responsibility of all participants, leaders, and attendees. This policy outlines the procedures the event will follow, should an incident occur. At all times, the policies of both The Scout Association and Girlguiding will be adhered to; where appropriate, advice will be sought from their respective Safeguarding Teams.

Definitions

- **Attendees** - anyone registered on the booking system for the event.
- **Contractor** - any person or company from whom Wings 2026 has procured paid services, who is not a leader or volunteer.
- **Event** - Wings 2026.
- **Group leader** - the unit/troop leader responsible for all participants and other leaders in their participant group.
- **International leader/volunteer** - any adult attending in a group leadership or volunteer role who is not from the UK, and is part of a scouting organisation affiliated with World Scouting (WOSM) or the World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts (WAGGGS).
- **International participant** - any young person aged 10–18 (or 4–10 if attending Mini WINGS) who is not from the UK, and is part of a scouting organisation affiliated with World Scouting (WOSM) or the World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts (WAGGGS).
- **Leaders** - members of the Scout Association or Girlguiding aged 14+ who are part of a Participant Group.
- **Organisers** - Berkshire Scouts and Girlguiding Royal Berkshire
- **Participants** - Guides, Scouts, Explorers, or Rangers (aged 10–17 on 31 July 2026), and young people attending Mini WINGS (aged 4–10).
- **Sub camp leads** - Can be found via each Subcamp HQ.

Safeguarding Principles

The event is committed to creating an environment where all attendees can participate without fear of harm, guided by the following principles:

- **Young person centred;** the welfare of all young people is our top priority - we will promote their safety, health, and wellbeing in all activities.
- **Zero tolerance of abuse;** any form of abuse - physical, emotional, sexual, financial, or neglect - is unacceptable. We are committed to preventing abuse and addressing it immediately.
- **Respect for diversity;** we will foster an inclusive environment that celebrates diversity, ensuring all participants are treated with dignity and respect.
- **Prevention;** preventative measures - including risk assessments, staff training, and ongoing support - will be in place to minimise the possibility of harm.
- **Accountability & transparency;** all safeguarding concerns will be taken seriously and investigated, with clear lines of accountability.

Safeguarding Measures

- **UK leaders & volunteers;** all UK leaders and volunteers must hold a valid Scouting or Girlguiding DBS check.
- **International leaders & volunteers;** international leaders and volunteers must comply with the event Code of Conduct and Behaviour Agreement and must have completed World Scouting Safe From Harm training.
- **Contractors;** contractors must comply with the event Code of Conduct and Behaviour Agreement, Safeguarding Policy, undertake an induction on arrival and must complete the event Letter of Assurance.
- **Supervision;** all activities will be appropriately supervised with clear adult-to-child ratios.
- **Code of conduct;** all staff, volunteers, contractors and participants must adhere to the event Code of Conduct emphasising respectful, appropriate interactions aligned with the values of both organisations.
- **Risk assessment;** comprehensive risk assessments will be carried out prior to the event and proactively reviewed as required.
- **Reporting & response;** clear reporting mechanisms will always be in place, with a designated Safeguarding & Welfare Team available throughout the event.

Safeguarding Responsibilities

Senior management team	Ensure implementation and monitoring of safeguarding policies and that all leaders and adult attendees (18+) have completed appropriate training.
Staff and volunteers	Actively promote safeguarding, maintain a safe and respectful environment, adhere to the Code of Conduct, and report any concerns. UK Leaders and Volunteers must hold a valid Scouting or Girlguiding DBS check. International Leaders and Volunteers must have completed World Scouting Safe from Harm training.
Participants	Follow the event handbook, respect one another, and raise any concerns with a trusted adult.
Parents and guardians	Ensure children are aware of behaviour expectations and support the event's safeguarding efforts.
Contractors	Must comply with the event Code of Conduct and Behaviour Agreement and complete the event Letter of Assurance.

Non-Compliance

All incidents of non-compliance will be handled in accordance with the policies of The Scout Association and Girlguiding UK. Further guidance can be found at:

- Scouts: [Safeguarding Policy and Procedures](#)
- Girlguiding: [Safeguarding Policy](#)