# SCOTFORTH AFTER SCHOOL & COCKERHAM KIDS CLUB
## SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN STATEMENT – Reviewed 16/09/24

**STATEMENT –**

The welfare, safety and protection of children is the first and overriding priority of the club. We are committed to the principles and practice of safeguarding children from abuse or neglect and recognize the importance of acting promptly and appropriately. Playwork practitioners have an important role in the protection of children from abuse, as the club is a unique place in the child's life, offering a safe, friendly and supportive environment. We have a legal duty to take action in any case of suspected abuse & protect children at risk of being radicalized and drawn into violent extremist ideology. This action will be based on the child's needs and best interests and a wider social duty to prevent the ideology of extremism and promotion of terrorism. Marie Smith and Emma Flynn are designated safeguarding children leads and will be responsible for liaising with children's social care services, the local safeguarding Children Arrangements in Lancashire and Ofsted in any child protection matter. Marie Smith will work very closely with head teachers in the relevant schools & DSL regarding safeguarding issues. They will both access support and advice from relevant bodies and CSAP – Children's Safeguarding Assurance Partnership & MASH

**AIMS –**

- To protect the children in our care from all forms of abuse: physical, emotional, sexual, neglect and bullying and those who are at risk of being radicalized and drawn into violent extremism.
- To establish close relationships with children in order to better understand their actions and circumstances and to promote a safe and secure environment.
- To establish clear procedures for dealing with suspicions or allegations of abuse & whistle-blowing.
- To ensure that all staff are aware of their role in safeguarding children and their responsibilities to report concerns to their lead safeguarding professional.
- To develop Multi-Agency Partnership (MAP/MASH) knowledge to support our staff team & families access help when they are in need & to information share with these partners when needed.
- To maintain confidentiality on a need to know basis and involving families with referral processes providing this is in the child's best interests/would not causes further harm.

All of our staff team are trained annually and attend regular in-house safeguarding training meetings along with external face-to face courses provided by Inspire to learn training provider.

We all have a duty to:

- Recognise
- Respond
- Report
- Record
- & Refer concerns using the 7 rules of information sharing set out in the 'Sharing Information Guidance for practitioner' written by Ofsted.

Full & further safeguarding policies are available to read in our setting on request.