Essex Stragglers Orienteering Society acknowledges the duty of care to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and adults at risk and is committed to ensuring safeguarding practice reflects statutory responsibilities, government guidance and complies with best practice and British Orienteering O Safe requirements.

The policy recognises that the welfare and interests of children and adults at risk are paramount in all circumstances. It aims to ensure that regardless of age, ability or disability, gender reassignment, race, religion or belief, sex or sexual orientation, socio-economic background, all children and adults at risk

* have a positive and enjoyable experience of orienteering in a safe environment
* are protected from abuse whilst participating in events and activities provided by Essex Stragglers Orienteering Society or outside of the activity.

Essex Stragglers Orienteering Society acknowledges that some children and adults at risk, including disabled people or those from ethnic minority communities, can be particularly vulnerable to abuse and we accept the responsibility to take reasonable and appropriate steps to ensure their welfare.

As part of our safeguarding policy Essex Stragglers Orienteering Society will

* promote and prioritise the safety and wellbeing of children and adults at risk
* ensure everyone understands their roles and responsibilities in respect of safeguarding and is provided with appropriate learning opportunities to recognise, identify and respond to signs of abuse, neglect and other safeguarding concerns relating to children and adults at risk
* ensure appropriate action is taken in the event of incidents/concerns of abuse and support is provided to the individual/s who raise or disclose the concern
* ensure that confidential, detailed and accurate records of all safeguarding concerns are maintained and securely stored
* prevent the employment/deployment of unsuitable individuals
* ensure robust safeguarding arrangements and procedures are in operation.

The policy and procedures will be widely promoted and are mandatory for everyone involved in Essex Stragglers Orienteering Society. Failure to comply with the policy and procedures will be addressed without delay and may ultimately result in dismissal/exclusion from the organisation.

Monitoring

The policy will be reviewed a year after development and then every three years, or in the following circumstances:

* changes in legislation and/or government guidance
* as required by the Local Safeguarding Children Board, UK Sport and/or Home Country Sports Councils and British Orienteering.
* as a result of any other significant change or event.