

# Rev and Go

## CHILD PROTECTION POLICY APPROVED BY TRUSTEES.

Rev and Go supports young people aged 12 to 18 years in a Cotgrave group formed to minimise anti-social behaviour. Young people are enjoy road motorcycling (in exchange for a written contract of good behaviour), combined with supervised bike maintenance and meetings for self-governance.

### MEETING CHILD PROTECTION NEEDS

A designated trustee is directly responsible for implementation of the child protection policy. It is the Trust's policy is to conform with DfE's "Working Together to Safeguard Children (2010)". Reference is available to DfE's and Nottinghamshire Safeguarding Children Board's (NSCB) documents "Safeguarding Children Procedures (2010)" and "What to do if you are worried that a child is being abused". Copies of Nottinghamshire's "Common Assessment Framework Handbook", "Joint Assessment Team Handbook" (JAT) and "Pathway to Provision" are held by the Trust and used as guidance. The designated trustee will attend appropriate safeguarding training and maintain a link to the Local Safeguarding Children Board (LSCB).

The trustees ensure that each child's situation is monitored by all volunteers. Copies of the leaflet "Are you worried about a child being abused" are available to all volunteers.

Young people each are to be treated with individual trust and respect, being offered opportunity to talk about their needs at times and places of their choosing (given that the place and time are suitable for purpose and do not pose a risk to the worker).

Monitoring will occur for problems caused by:

- Physical abuse
- Emotional abuse
- Sexual abuse or
- Neglect

Monitoring includes but is not limited to :

- listening to comments made by each young person,
- listening to comments made by each young person about its peers,
- watching for signs of physical injury,
- observing variation in the body language of each young person,
- detecting behavioural changes in each young person.

The project will also be alert for indicators of gang membership/activity, bullying and sexual activity which could suggest that the young person may be at risk of harm. In these circumstances advice should be sought from the duty social worker at Nottinghamshire Children's Social Care and agreement should be made whether the concerns reach the threshold for a formal referral to Children's Social Care.

Should monitoring suggest that a child is in urgent need, then reports will be made either directly to NSCB (telephone contacts number for normal hours and out of hours are held) or to the police in the absence of such contact being feasible. The referral should be made by telephone within 24 hours and followed up in writing 48 hours. The referral should contain as much information as possible and include: Name/date of birth/ address/ parents/carers details/school/details of GP/any known disability or communications difficulties/ known family difficulties such as domestic violence- substance misuse- learning difficulties-mental health problems and details of the concerns. It should follow JAT guidance and format.

A record of any referral to Social Services will be made for report to Trustees and to be recorded (without names if needed) in their minutes. JAT documentation will be raised as needed either by The Trust or with its partners.

Nottinghamshire Children Social Care should acknowledge the written referral within one working day. If this acknowledgement has not been received within three working days then contact should be made again to ensure the referral has been received.

Where any doubt exists, supported evaluation is needed, or where the child's welfare will be more suitably supported, discussion with the Trustee nominated to manage Child Protection or with the Project Manager will take place as soon as is practicable. Consultation is available with the full time workers of Nottinghamshire County Council Young People's Division, and with staff at local secondary schools.

All members are advised to discuss any concerns about their own or their peers' welfare with the nominated Trustee or Project Manager as part of their induction process (which follows acceptance or membership by the members' committee of peers).

Confidentiality of matters in process will always be maintained by all members of the Trust and its volunteers. However all volunteers and trustees should be aware that it is NEVER possible to keep information regarding possible harm to a young person confidential and this information MUST be shared with Children's Social Care or the Police.

All members are advised to discuss any concerns about their own or their peers' welfare with the nominated Trustee or Project Manager as part of their induction process (which follows acceptance or membership by the members' committee of peers).

Any concern regarding a volunteer or trustees behaviour towards a young person should be discussed with the chair of trustees immediately. If the concern is regarding the chair of trustees then the concern should be discussed the project manager.

If an allegation or concerns arises that any volunteer or trustee has:

- Behaved in a way that has or may harmed a young person,
- Possibly committed a criminal offence against or related to a young person
- Behaved towards a young person in a way that indicates they may not be suitable to work with children and young people

Then the concern should be discussed immediately with the project manager or chair of trustees who will provide advice on how the allegation/concern will be managed and will assume a lead if there is to be a child protection investigation. A confidential and clear record of communication and decision making will be maintained.

Parents/carers are welcome as volunteer helpers at any event. Volunteer forms are issued to each prospective member with their application and parental consent form. All volunteers are checked against Criminal Records Bureau files (which is stated on the volunteer application form) prior to work being undertaken. NYON and Clubs for Young People act as the named reporting body. Volunteers undergo an interview to assess their suitability to work with young people. An induction relevant to their task is given, including child protection matters and the need to listen to young people, responding to their concerns and referring to the project manager or trustees any reasons for concern.

### **KEEPING YOUNG PEOPLE SAFE**

A meeting is held with the parent/carer of each new member to discuss the risks associated with motorsport, the member's contract and support available to their young person (including the child protection steps taken by the Trust).

All activities are supervised by qualified adults. Volunteers will avoid lone working when possible, being recruited to tasks as appropriate to the sex of group members at any event. "Same sex" staffing applies to all events including rides, workshop activity and trips away, to ensure that any first aid or similar support is available in an appropriate manner. When possible staff of both sexes are available to offer support as needed by members at a given time.

First aid certificates will be held by at least one volunteer at each activity, supporting the certificated first aid capabilities of group members, who will attend a Basic First Aid Course as soon as is practicable.

All activity areas will be risk assessed and steps taken to meet health and safety needs of the members and staff. This will occur at riding sites, workshop locations and meeting rooms.

All motorcycles are serviced against a schedule supported by the bike's workshop manual after every ride. At each ride all bikes are "technical checked" against a schedule prior to being used. All faults are rectified before bikes are re-used.

The group does not allow any young person to ride motor cycles unless they wear all of the safety kit, correctly fastened, as required of them by Trustees' Standing Orders. Minimum kit includes cover for arms and legs plus:

- ACU Gold Label approved helmet,
- goggles,
- gloves,
- kidney belt with body armour or a Knox integral back, chest, elbow and shoulder protector and
- suitable boots.

This is to minimise personal physical risk when taking part in the group's activities. All safety kit is checked and cleaned after each ride, any faults are reported to the kit manager or project manager for replacement.

A strict substance abuse policy is in force. The following is copied from the mandatory parental consent form "We operate a zero tolerance policy on high-energy/high-caffeine drinks such as Red Bull and Relentless. These create hyperactivity. Please do not allow your young person to attend a ride session with these drinks. We operate zero alcohol tolerance at rides and enforce this by breath testing. An alcohol breathalyzer is taken to rides. Cannabis and other illegal substance test kits are held by the group. We use them on a selective and/or random basis. Your signature below authorises us to test your son/daughter when required."

Workshop sessions are supervised by a qualified mechanic. Induction of each member to use of the workshop includes briefing on tool use, lifting and carrying, fuel handling, location of fire extinguishers and exit routes. Members are required to wear protective overalls and suitable boots. Protective items such as barrier crème and latex gloves are provided. Cautionary notes about handling of carcinogenic liquids (e.g. dirty 4 stroke oil) and superheated radiator water are given on first arrival.

The group manages its own activities as far as is possible. This includes a continuous monitor on equality of sharing in the group's resources and bullying. Any unreasonable behaviour is dealt with by the members' committee using the trustees as a "court of appeal", under supervision of adult volunteers.