



ENGLISH-SPEAKING UNION
Scotland

ENGLISH-SPEAKING UNION SCOTLAND CHILD PROTECTION POLICY

Introduction

The English-Speaking Union Scotland (ESU Scotland) is an educational charity which provides opportunities for children and young people to learn and practise skills of public speaking and debate and to participate in other competitions, events and activities under its aegis. It takes its responsibilities for the protection of children and young people very seriously and has established protocols and training opportunities which are designed as far as possible to ensure:

- That the risks to children participating in activities organised or promoted by ESU Scotland are minimised
- That staff and volunteers of ESU Scotland know how to respond should any disclosure be made to them in the course of their contact with any child or young person

The ESU Scotland Child Protection Statement

The Statement sets out the approach to Child Protection taken by ESU Scotland. It is widely publicised on ESU Scotland material. The text of the Statement appears below.

(a) Governance

There is at all times at least one Trustee of ESU Scotland who is trained and experienced in Child Protection and has clearance under the Disclosure Scotland PVG Scheme. This Trustee has the responsibility of overseeing the operation of this Child Protection policy and compliance with it. The Child Protection Trustee should have the opportunity of making a report to the Annual General Meeting of ESU Scotland on the operation of this policy should he/she feel it necessary. The Child Protection Trustee would receive any disclosures concerning staff members or other Trustees and provides support for the Head of Education in dealing with any child protection matters.

(b) Child Protection Trustees

The Child Protection Trustee : **Melvyn Roffe**
The Deputy Child Protection Trustees : **Helen Wright, Greg Murray**

Operational Matters

It is the Head of Education's responsibility to ensure that all staff and volunteers are aware of the ESU Scotland Child Protection Statement and their responsibilities under it.

Review

This policy will be reviewed by the Trustees each calendar year.

THE ESU SCOTLAND CHILD PROTECTION STATEMENT

The English-Speaking Union Scotland (ESU Scotland) takes its responsibilities for the protection of children and young people very seriously and has established protocols and training opportunities which are designed as far as possible to ensure:

That the risks to children participating in activities organised or promoted by ESU Scotland are minimised

- All children and young people who attend ESU Scotland events should be accompanied by school staff or parents/carers, who have principal responsibility for their care.
- ESU staff and mentors who work regularly with children and young people are members of the Protection of Vulnerable Groups (PVG) scheme.
- All ESU staff and mentors will attend a yearly training session on Child Protection. Volunteers will also be invited to attend this session.
- All volunteers or staff who attend ESU Scotland events for children and young people will be sent a copy of the ESU Scotland Code of Conduct.
- From time to time ESU Scotland may take photographs and record material from events for archive or promotional purposes. This material will not be used in any public forum without the express consent of the parent/carer of the subject (or the subject's own consent if over 16).

That staff and volunteers of ESU Scotland know how to respond should any disclosure be made to them in the course of their contact with any child or young person

- Where representatives of ESU Scotland have concerns about a child or young person, either through a disclosure or through actions/observations, they should share their concern, without delay, to the Head of Education of ESU Scotland
- If the concern relates to the actions of the Head of Education then the concerns should be raised with the Child Protection Trustee or their Deputies.
- Where a disclosure in respect of the welfare or safety of a child or young person is made to a representative of ESU Scotland, the matter will be referred to the Child Protection Officer of the school attended by the child or young person by the Head of Education.
- If the disclosure or observation relates to the actions of a representative of ESU Scotland then they will be suspended from their role, without prejudice, while an investigation takes place. This investigation will be conducted by the Head of Education in consultation with the Child Protection Trustee, or their Deputies, in consultation with the child or young person's school.
- Accurate records of any disclosure, observation and investigation must be made and stored securely in line with ESU Scotland's Data Protection Policy. These records may be shared with the Child Protection Officer of the school attended if deemed necessary for the pupil's welfare and safety.

Contact Details

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