Tech Cornwall Safeguarding Policy

1 Tech Cornwall Safeguarding Policy

Scope:

This policy applies to all staff, volunteers and anyone working on behalf of Tech Cornwall.

It covers all Tech Cornwall programmes and activities, including but not limited to Cornwall Tech Jam, work experiences and other events that the Tech Cornwall leads. Events may be held at venues that have their own safeguarding policies. In these instances, this policy should be seen as a supplement to the venue's policy.

Purpose:

• To protect children, young people, and vulnerable adults who take part in Tech Cornwall activities.

• To provide staff and volunteers with the overarching principles that guide our approach to safeguarding and child protection.

Tech Cornwall believes that a child, young person, or vulnerable adult should never experience abuse of any kind. We have a responsibility to promote the welfare of all children, young people, and vulnerable adults, and to keep them safe. We are committed to follow practices that protect them.

Legal framework:

This policy has been drawn up on the basis of law and guidance that seeks to protect children, including:

UK Children Act 1989, United Convention of the Rights of the Child 1991, UK Data Protection Act 1998 and 2018, UK Human Rights Act 1998, UK Sexual Offences Act 2003, UK Children Act 2004, UK Safeguarding Vulnerable Groups Act 2006, UK Protection of Freedoms Act 2012, UK Children and Families Act 2014, Ireland's ChildrenFirst 2015.

This policy should be read alongside our privacy policy, code of behaviour for staff and volunteers.

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We recognise that:

- The welfare of the child/young person/vulnerable adult is paramount.
- All children and vulnerable adults, regardless of age, disability, gender, racial heritage, religious belief, sexual orientation or identity, have the right to equal protection from all types of harm and abuse.
- Working in partnership with children, young people, vulnerable adults, parents/guardians, carers, and their agencies is essential for promoting welfare.

We will seek to safeguard children, young people, and vulnerable adults by:

- Valuing them, listening to them, and respecting them.
- Adopting safeguarding guidelines through procedures, a code of behaviour.
- Recruiting staff and volunteers safely.

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- Ensuring that all Tech Cornwall agreements include specific safeguarding obligations. This includes sharing our code of behaviour with volunteers.
- Using our procedures to manage any allegations against staff and volunteers appropriately.
- Sharing information about concerns with appropriate agencies that need to know (e.g. social services, police), and involving parents and children appropriately.
- Establishing appropriate procedures for escalating safeguarding concerns within Tech Cornwall and relevant external bodies.
- Creating and maintaining an anti-bullying environment and ensuring that we have a policy and procedure to help us deal effectively with any bullying that does arise.

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- Ensuring that we require a safe physical environment for our children, young people, staff, and volunteers by applying health and safety measures in accordance with the law and regulatory guidance.