

BRISTOL BEEKEEPERS

Definition 'Bristol Beekeepers' is used as an abbreviation of 'The Bristol Branch of Avon Beekeepers Association'.

Bristol Beekeepers Safeguarding Policy 2026 Child Protection and the Protection of Vulnerable Adults

STATEMENT

The Bristol Branch of Avon Beekeepers Association is committed to fulfilling its duty of care to children, young people and vulnerable adults with whom it may come into contact. This will be achieved by promoting, creating and maintaining a culture and environment that promotes the safety and welfare of children, young people and vulnerable adults.

The branch recognises its duty to comply with legislative requirements to work with the appropriate agencies in protecting children, young people and vulnerable adults and to ensure that any suspicions or allegations of abuse will be taken seriously and responded to in a swift, appropriate and confidential manner.

Any member of the branch who has concerns about the welfare of a child, young person or vulnerable adult, and which may indicate physical, emotional and sexual abuse or neglect, is required to report such concerns to the named person responsible for protection issues.

Those members of the branch who come into contact with children, young people and vulnerable adults, whether as volunteers with work parties or as helpers at school visits, will be made aware of the Bristol Beekeepers Protection Procedures and Code of Conduct. Those who come into regular contact with children, young people and vulnerable adults will also be checked through the Criminal Records Bureau procedure (Training Manager and Assistant Training Manager).

Procedures and Code of Conduct for members of Bristol Beekeepers who come into contact with children, young people and vulnerable adults.

TYPES OF ABUSE

- Physical - Where a person receives physical hurt or injury that is not accidental
- Sexual - Where a person is the subject of sexual gratification from people exploiting the vulnerability of children, young person or vulnerable adults
- Emotional - Where a person is adversely affected by persistent or severe rejection or lack of affection, or persistent taunts or threats
- Neglect - Where a serious impairment to personal health or development is caused by lack of care and attention and exposure to any kind of danger.

DEFINITION OF A CHILD/YOUNG PERSON

A child/young person is defined as any person aged under the age of 18.

DEFINITION OF A VULNERABLE ADULT

A vulnerable adult is an individual who is or may be in need of community care services by reason of mental or other disability, age or illness and includes those who may be unable to either take care of themselves or protect themselves against harm or exploitation.

CODE OF CONDUCT

Members in contact with children, young people or vulnerable adults **must**:

- Ensure that the child/young person/vulnerable adult is accompanied by a parent, guardian, carer or teacher acting in loco parentis at all times.
- Ensure that the child, young person or vulnerable adult observes the safety advice given by the member.
- Ensure that there is a supervising parent/guardian present during activities.
- Avoid giving a child/young person/vulnerable adult a lift in their car and avoid taking a child/young person/vulnerable adult to their (the member's) home.
- Ensure all children, young people and vulnerable adults are treated with respect and are encouraged to speak up if they have any concerns.
- Be aware that physical contact with a child, young person or vulnerable adult may be misinterpreted. For this reason members must not engage in rough physical games, horseplay, or touch a child/young person/vulnerable adult in an intrusive or sexual manner.
- Not make sexually suggestive remarks to a child, young person or vulnerable adult, even as a joke.

- Be prepared to challenge unacceptable behaviour and ensure that any suspicions or allegations of abuse are recorded and reported to the named person responsible for dealing with protection issues.
- Declare that there is no reason why they should not work with children, young people and vulnerable adults.
- Declare any past criminal convictions or pending cases and any complaints of abuse made against them.
- Have a criminal records check if they *regularly* come into connection with children in the course of their volunteering activities for the group.
- Expect to be informed of any allegations made to the protection officer and the action taken.

ROLE OF THE NAMED PERSON

- To receive information from volunteers, children and vulnerable adults, parents or carers who have protection concerns and record it.
- Assess information promptly and carefully, clarifying or obtaining more information about the matter as appropriate.
- Consult with a statutory or child protection agency, to test out any doubts or uncertainty about the concerns.
- Make a formal referral to a statutory Child Protection agency or the Police.
- The named person will inform members of the group of any allegations made and the action taken.

It is **NOT** the role of the named person to decide whether abuse has taken place.

The named person is: Paul Moorhouse

Email: secretary@bristolbeekeepers.org.uk

SCENARIOS

Scenario	Action required by Guardian/Parent	Action required by Bristol Beekeepers
Child/young person/vulnerable adult attends training course or similar event	Parent/guardian to attend with the child/young person/vulnerable adult and ensure their supervision at all times.	To ensure the Trainer(s) knows who is supervising the child/young person/vulnerable adult and not be alone with the child at any time.
Child/young person/vulnerable adult attends Apiary	Parent/guardian will attend with the child/young person/vulnerable adult and be under their supervision at all times.	To ensure the Trainer(s) know who is supervising the child/young person/vulnerable adult and the Trainer/Volunteers are not alone with the child/young person/vulnerable adult at any time. When ensuring the security of the child/young person/vulnerable adults's bee suit – this must be done under strict supervision of the parent/guardian
Bristol Beekeeper visits a school	Teacher to be present at all times and ensure Bristol Beekeeper is not left alone with children at any time.	Ensure teacher is present at all times and you are not on your own with a child/children at any point.
School group visits the Apiary	To ensure Bristol Beekeepers are escorted/supervised at all times. Ensure acceptable ratio of children to adults 5:1	Ensure a school teacher/representative is present at all times and you are not left on your own with a child/children at any point.

POLICY REVIEW

Bristol Beekeepers will review its policy annually and update and amend as necessary.

Created: January 2026

Next Review: 1 January 2027