

General Statement

It is not one of Milngavie in Bloom's [MiB] express purposes to provide services to, or work with, children.

Any contact that MiB members have with children during the course of their MiB activities will be incidental to the purposes of MiB as set out in its constitution. There is therefore no requirement for MiB to have PVG Scheme or Disclosure Scotland checks.

A child is any person under the age of 18 years and membership of MiB is not available to children.

'MiB activities' means gardening and/or litter-picking activities carried out on MiB's scheduled workdays or at other times formally designated by MiB.

On occasion, MiB may receive requests from schools or youth groups for their children to work with our members on a one-off basis. Exceptionally, MiB may approach such organisations with a view to them sponsoring an annual bedding display that their children will help to plant up. In both situations, children will be required to be under the supervision and control of their teachers or youth leaders at all times.

The exception to this arrangement is children who may approach MiB as part of the Duke of Edinburgh [DoE] Scheme. MiB will normally look favourably upon requests from DoE children to work with its members but, as they are not under the supervision of teachers or parents whilst they do so, particular safeguarding arrangements are in place.

Should MiB work with vulnerable adults, the policy set out in this document will apply, mutatis mutandis, to their situation.

In fulfillment of MiB's obligations as a charity regulated by the Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator, MiB's charity trustees will take the actions necessary to promote the welfare of children and vulnerable adults who may be involved in MiB activities to protect them from physical, emotional, sexual and financial harm and neglect.

Policy

1. This policy applies to all members of MiB engaged in its activities in which children may be involved
2. All members of MiB must be 18 years of age or older
3. Any child involved in MiB activities must be under the supervision and control of their teachers or youth leaders at all times (but see below for children working under the DoE scheme). Those persons are ultimately responsible for the safeguarding of their children.
4. No MiB member should work alone with a child or children at any time. Unless a teacher/leader is present – as should always be the case - there must be at least two MiB members present when working alongside or in the vicinity of children engaged in MiB activities.
5. A child engaged in MiB activities must not be allowed to work or be alone at any time. If a MiB member notices such a situation, he/she should immediately alert the teacher/leader and/or MiB Convenor/Work Leader.
6. It is not always possible to keep children in sight at all times because of the nature of the activity. However, there must always be at least two children working together. They will be

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assigned a defined area in which to work by the MiB Convenor/Work Leader and given a time by which they must report back.

7. If a member of MiB has any concern about the treatment of any child engaged in MiB activities, he/she should raise the matter as soon as possible with the relevant MiB Convenor or another Committee member.
8. Items 1-7 above also apply to children engaged in MiB activities under the DoE Scheme. However, it is unlikely that they will have a teacher/leader present with them so MiB members must be especially vigilant and strictly adhere to the MiB safeguarding policy when working alongside or in the vicinity of DoE children.
9. MiB will have no safeguarding responsibility for DoE children who choose to litter pick or work on areas maintained by MiB at times other than on MiB's scheduled workdays or at other times formally designated by MiB.
10. Parents/guardians of DoE children will be referred to the MiB Safeguarding and H&S Policies on the MiB website (paper copies will be provided if necessary) and asked to sign a declaration that they have read the policies and give permission for their child to work with MiB.