Child Protection Policy Statement

TheO6 (including XL-Mentoring (Ottery)) acknowledges the duty of care to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and young people; and is committed to ensuring safeguarding practice reflects statutory responsibilities, government guidance and complies with best practice and TheO6 requirements.

The policy recognises that the welfare and interests of children and young people are paramount in all circumstances. It aims to ensure that regardless of age, ability or disability, gender reassignment, race, religion or belief, sex or sexual orientation, socio-economic background, all children and young people

- have a positive and enjoyable experience whilst being mentored by XL-Mentoring (Ottery) in a safe appropriate and suitable environment
- have a positive and enjoyable experience whilst attending an O6 activity or event in a safe, appropriate and suitable environment.
- are protected from abuse whilst participating in all O6 activities or outside of the activity.

TheO6 acknowledges that some children, including disabled children and young people or those from ethnic minority communities, can be particularly vulnerable to abuse and we accept the responsibility to take reasonable and appropriate steps to ensure their welfare.

As part of our safeguarding policy TheO6 and XL Mentoring (Ottery) will

- promote and prioritise the safety and wellbeing of children and young people
- ensure everyone understands their roles and responsibilities in respect of safeguarding and is provided with appropriate learning opportunities to recognise, identify and respond to signs of abuse, neglect and other safeguarding concerns relating to children and young people
- ensure appropriate action is taken in the event of incidents/concerns of abuse and support provided to the individual/s who raise or disclose the concern
- ensure that confidential, detailed and accurate records of all safeguarding concerns are maintained and securely stored
- prevent the employment/deployment of unsuitable individuals
- ensure robust safeguarding arrangements and procedures are in operation.

The policy and procedures will be widely promoted and are mandatory for everyone involved in TheO6 and XL-Mentoring (Ottery). Failure to comply with the policy and procedures will be addressed without delay and may ultimately result in dismissal/exclusion from the organisation.

Monitoring

The policy will be reviewed a year after development and then every three years, or in the following circumstances:

- changes in legislation and/or government guidance
- as required by the trustees of TheO6
- as a result of any other significant change or event.

Signed……**Chair** (on behalf of the trustees) Date ……To be Reviewed: **August 2025**

August 2024