

NEWDAY POLICY (updated March 2026)

Newday is an annual residential youth festival, run by a registered charity - "Newday Generation UK".

The Newday Executive Management Team takes seriously its responsibility to protect children and young people who attend the event and is committed to providing a safe and secure environment for them.

The leadership of Newday is committed to the following:

- Nurturing, safeguarding and protecting delegates and servers at Newday, especially children and young people.
- Supporting and resourcing those who work with children and young people.
- Creating an open and transparent environment where individuals feel confident about sharing concerns they have about their own, or others' safety and wellbeing.
- Ensuring all who work with children are aware of appropriate safeguarding procedures and actions in the event of a child being at risk of, or potentially experiencing, harm.
- Providing experienced pastoral and medical teams to support all at Newday.

The Safeguarding Team:

If and when safeguarding incidents occur, there are clear procedures to follow which have been carefully thought through with advice. Newday aims to respond without undue delay to any complaint, suspicion or disclosure of abuse made by a child for whom Newday shares responsibility. This includes cooperating with wider agencies, including the Local Authority, Police, and Disclosure Services.

The current Designated Safeguarding Officer for Newday is Jane Horne. The Designated Safeguarding Officer leads the Safeguarding Team at Newday which is made up of individuals and professionals from a variety of backgrounds - including Social Work, Healthcare, and Education. The Designated Safeguarding Officer is contactable via the Newday office during the event. The Designated Safeguarding Officer and Safeguarding Team is overseen by Pastoral Care Leaders - currently Wayne and Nicky Parsons - who are responsible for Pastoral Care during the Newday event.

The Designated Safeguarding Officer's Team record all disclosures and actions and keep this information securely and confidentially for as long as necessary.

Newday One Team

A member of the Newday 'One Team' is anyone who has applied and been accepted to take on an official serving role at Newday.

Members of the One Team will need to complete the following steps prior to arriving at Newday:

1. Obtain an "Enhanced DBS" certificate, specifically for the Newday event. (DBS certificates for other roles outside of Newday will not be acceptable for logistical reasons).
2. Obtain a reference from the Church Elder or Senior Leader of their current church, (who is not a relation). The reference should confirm that the referee personally has known the person (server) for at least 6 months, they have no concerns about the person being on site at Newday and no concerns about their interaction with children or vulnerable adults.
3. Read the Child Protection Policy and acknowledge this online when booking into Newday.

Adults serving their local church during the event and NOT part of the One Team (e.g. youth leaders and local church catering team) need to do the following:

1. Obtain a DBS through their local church.
2. Obtain a reference from the Church Leader (see point 2 above).
3. Read the Child Protection Policy and acknowledge this online when booking into Newday.

In the event of relevant documentation not being submitted and verified prior to the event, it must be brought to the One Team Reception onsite and submitted before an applicant/volunteer/adult accompanying a church on site, can serve.

Applicants whose documentation is late, or incomplete, run the risk of not being able to serve/ accompany their church at Newday.

Responsible Adults coming to Newday:

A Responsible Adult is an adult over 18 nominated by the local church to take responsibility for up to 6 under 18s from their church group during the Newday event. If a delegate needs to leave the site and is under 16 years old, their Responsible Adult will be expected to accompany them.

In order to pray with young people at Newday, a responsible adult must obtain the appropriate wristband from their Group Co-ordinator or Elder.

All responsible adults must have an Enhanced DBS certificate, obtained through their local church.

All other adults who stay on site with their local church **MUST** have an Enhanced DBS Disclosure through their local church.

In the event that an adult is staying on site without a clear Enhanced DBS check from their local church they may be asked to leave the site immediately.

Blemished DBS:

Should an adult wanting to come to Newday with a local church - or anyone wanting to serve with the Newday One Team - have a 'blemished DBS' (where the Enhanced DBS check reveals a conviction or concern relating to children, sexual offences or other violent

offences), they (or the Local Church) MUST inform the Newday Designated Safeguarding Officer by email: safeguarding@newdaygeneration.org

Further information will be pursued and discussion with the Newday Management Team (as appropriate) will be undertaken to assess if the person who holds the blemished DBS is safe to be on site.

Newday Generation UK requests that Churches considering bringing an adult on site with a blemished DBS should advise the Designated Safeguarding Officer no less than 4 weeks before the start of the Newday Festival.

Contractors

Contractors will be asked to read and sign the Child Protection Policy. Copies of this document will be held by the Newday office.

If the contractor's Newday supervisor becomes aware of any inappropriate behaviour towards delegates at Newday, they will contact the Designated Safeguarding Officer/Safeguarding Team as soon as possible. This may result in the contractor being asked to leave Newday. Contractors who stay onsite must have a Newday DBS.

Day Visitors and Guests

Adult Day Visitors are the responsibility of their local church. Their visit to Newday needs to be approved by their Church Elder/Leader and a reference should be given. The reference should confirm that the referee has known the visitor for at least 6 months, that they have no concerns about the person being on site at Newday and no concerns regarding their interaction with children or vulnerable adults.

In the event that someone has been invited by their church but has not had a reference, further discussion would need to take place with the Safeguarding and Newday Assist Teams prior to permitting an adult to come on to the Newday site.

Newday operates a closed-site policy and, as such, Day visitors and guests of Newday must be met at the main gate on arrival to Newday by a delegated person from their hosting church or by a Newday representative.

Day visitors/guests will be asked to read and sign the Child Protection Policy before coming onsite, copies of which will be held by the Newday office.

At the end of their visit, Day Visitors will be accompanied, when leaving the site, by their delegated church representative. *Day visitors must be off site by 11pm.

If the host of a day visitor/guest becomes aware of any inappropriate behaviour towards delegates at Newday, they must contact the Designated Safeguarding Officer/Safeguarding Team as soon as possible. This may result in the day visitor/guest being asked to leave Newday.

All day visitors and guests must have a connection to a church attending Newday or be invited by the Executive Management Team in order to enter the Newday site.

Guidelines for those working with children and young people:

- Where possible do not be alone with a child or young person. Ensure you can be seen by others.
- When a confidential conversation or meeting is necessary, always ensure that another responsible adult knows where and when the conversation/meeting is taking place and with who. It is recommended that another responsible adult (eg. the child or young person's youth leader) should be present where possible.
- Treat all children and young people with respect and dignity. Be mindful to use considerate and respectful language, tone of voice and body language.
- When praying for a child or young person, be careful to ensure any physical contact is appropriate and that permission is sought from the young person. Do not invade privacy or touch in an intrusive or inappropriate way. Avoid praying for a child or young person alone.
- Ensure you are aware of and follow First Aid and Fire procedures. There are authorised, qualified First Aiders on site at Newday, along with a qualified Medical Team, to respond and assist children and young people.

First aid/medical/emergency assistance can also be accessed via an allocated Newday radio channel.

Ensure you are aware who and where your immediate First Aiders are on your individual church sites.

Safeguarding Disclosures:

- If a child discloses any abuse or harm (emotional, physical, sexual, neglect, exploitation or multiple/complex themes) do not jump to conclusions or start to investigate, but consult your Team Leader without delay and complete a concern card.

The Newday Designated Safeguarding Officer or another Safeguarding Team Member in their absence, will be responsible for ensuring a fast and safe response and must be contacted as soon as possible with details of the safeguarding concern. Members of the Safeguarding Team will make an initial assessment and take action as appropriate.

Please talk with your Team Leader if you have any concerns or need help or advice.

Action to take with children/young people who disclose harm/abuse OR If actual or risk of harm/abuse is suspected, disclosed or discovered:

- DO NOT delay.
- DO NOT act alone.
- DO NOT start to investigate.
- DO NOT contact alleged abusers.
- DO NOT talk to parents or guardians.
- DO NOT discuss with friends.

- DO report the matter to your Team Leader; they will then follow the relevant procedures to support you in escalating the concern. (In the event that the issue of concern lies with the Team Leader then contact the Safeguarding Team directly).
- DO write down what the child has said in their words. You may be asked for this as evidence at a later stage/or to make a report.

How to react to a child who wants to talk about abuse:

It is important you react in a way which will be helpful and supportive to the child. The following guidance may be helpful:

- DO NOT agree to keep the information secret.
- DO NOT say or suggest that you are shocked.
- DO NOT say or suggest that you don't believe the child.
- DO NOT try to investigate the matter yourself. ONLY ask questions to clarify what you have heard or to understand the allegation/ concern being raised.
- DO NOT make false promises.
- DO explain to the child at the outset that you may have to tell or share information with another responsible adult if you think it necessary.
- DO remain calm and supportive.
- DO show acceptance of what the child says.
- DO reassure the child that they were right to tell you.
- DO tell the child what you are going to do next.

Abuse tends to fall within 4 recognised categories:

Physical Abuse

Physical abuse may involve any act of physical harm or injury to a child. This may also include an adult fabricating the illness of a child, misuse of medication, restraint, or using inappropriate sanctions.

Sexual Abuse

Involves forcing or enticing a child or young person to take part in sexual activities, whether or not the child is aware of what is happening. The activities may involve direct physical contact, including, rape or oral/digital sex, kissing, rubbing and touching outside of clothing. Sexual abuse can also be of an indirect nature: such as involving children in the viewing of , or within the production of, sexual images. Perpetrators may encourage children to behave in sexually inappropriate ways, or groom a child in preparation for abuse, including via the internet.

Children who are being sexually abused are often more likely to communicate they are being abused through behaviour change/sexualised behaviour or through other forms of communication (eg. A drawing) - rather than using words.

Neglect

Neglect is the persistent failure to meet a child's basic physical and/or psychological needs, likely to result in the serious impairment of the child's health or development. Neglect may occur as a result of parental/caregiver substance abuse. It may involve a parent or carer failing to: provide adequate food, clothing, shelter (including exclusion from home or abandonment); failing to protect a child from physical and emotional harm or danger; failing

to ensure a child receives an education; failing to ensure adequate supervision (including the use of inadequate care-givers); or failing to ensure access to appropriate medical care or treatment. It may also include neglect of, or unresponsiveness to a child's basic emotional needs.

Emotional Abuse

Emotional abuse tends to be present alongside other forms of abuse.

It is the persistent emotional maltreatment of a child which could result in adverse effects on their emotional, behavioural or developmental health. It may involve conveying to a child that they are worthless, unloved or inadequate.

It can involve being subject to witnessing traumatic events such as domestic abuse; or experiencing serious bullying (off and online) or exploitation. Such events could cause a child to feel frightened or in danger.

Children who are causing physical injury or negative physical consequences for themselves or others, are also suffering harm which would likely be considered under the category of emotional harm.

Complex abuse

Abuse can often span more than one of the above 4 main categories. It can also include:

Trafficking

Exploitation

Domestic abuse - children and young people are considered victims of domestic abuse in their own right (Domestic Abuse Act 2021).

Harmful sexual behaviour (including peer on peer abuse).

More information on these types of abuse can be found on the NSPCC website:

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/what-is-child-abuse/types-of-abuse/>

<https://learning.nspcc.org.uk/child-abuse-and-neglect/harmful-sexual-behaviour>

It is important that all forms of abuse are reported in a timely manner.

If you feel worried about a child or young person, please raise your concerns with the Safeguarding Team at Newday. Outside of Newday, please contact your local Children's Safeguarding Services.

References:

(Working Together to Safeguard Children, 2023).

See below updated changes as of
18 March 2026.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/working-together-to-safeguard-children--2/working-together-to-safeguard-children-2026-summary-of-changes>

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/669e7501ab418ab055592a7b/Working_together_to_safeguard_children_2023.pdf

