



# Quality Exchange

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**Keeping it  
safe**

A young person centred  
approach to safety and  
child protection

# Safeguarding: policy into practice



# Child protection and safeguarding

What is child protection?

What is safeguarding?

*What's the difference?*



# Child protection v safeguarding

Child protection looks at recognising abuse and neglect and acting on it....

...whereas safeguarding looks at keeping children and young people safe from a much wider range of potential harm, and looks at preventative action, not just reaction.



## Safeguarding definition

The term 'safeguarding'

describes the broader preventative and precautionary approach to planning and procedures that are necessary to be in place to protect children and young people from any potential harm or damage.

Child protection is one important aspect of safeguarding.



## What are we protecting children and young people from?

- Predatory paedophiles
- Abuse from family, acquaintances and strangers
- Domestic violence
- Inappropriate parenting
- Inappropriate supervision by staff/ volunteers
- Other young people (bullying, abuse)
- Themselves (self harm, risky behaviour)
- Unsafe activities and environments



## And.....

- Accident prevention  
e.g. road, home
- Crime
- Fear of crime
- Exploitation
- Immigration issues
- Unsafe environments  
e.g. parks, sports grounds
- Homelessness and unsuitable housing
- Victimisation due to race, sexuality, faith, gender, disability and so on



## So how do we safeguard young people?

- Increasing awareness and training of staff and volunteers
- Policies and procedures as living documents
- Quality marks and standards for organisations, particularly for safeguarding
- Health and safety and risk assessment of places, activities, trips etc
- Involving young people – educating and empowering them, and learning from them



## Safeguarding could also cover...

- Home safety
- Road safety
- First aid
- Citizenship and victim awareness
- Diversity education
- Assertiveness training



“The best way to protect children is to empower them to protect themselves”

Childhope UK

We should:

- teach them what is appropriate and what is not
- help them build their self-belief and confidence to challenge what is inappropriate
- give them avenues to address their concerns



One way we safeguard:  
Vetting at recruitment stage

Currently CRB checks



Safeguarding Vulnerable Groups Act



New vetting and barring scheme



**But.....**

Safeguarding is much more than vetting staff and volunteers....

..... also job/role descriptions, interviews, references, induction, probation, supervision, training, development, appraisal, etc etc....

....and many other safety measures



# British law protects children & young people through:

Prevention

Reaction

## Working together to safeguard children:

DfES document, outlining duties of the statutory and voluntary sector

Requires all organisations to have policies and procedures and training, create a culture of listening, commitment throughout the organisation



## Sound Systems ...

encourages organisations to critically examine their policies, procedures and practice

assesses whether they are appropriate and sufficient

ensures staff and volunteers are involved, understand and can implement policies;

ensures young people are aware of their rights and responsibilities around safeguarding;

provides support or mentoring to organisations so they are given guidance throughout the process; and

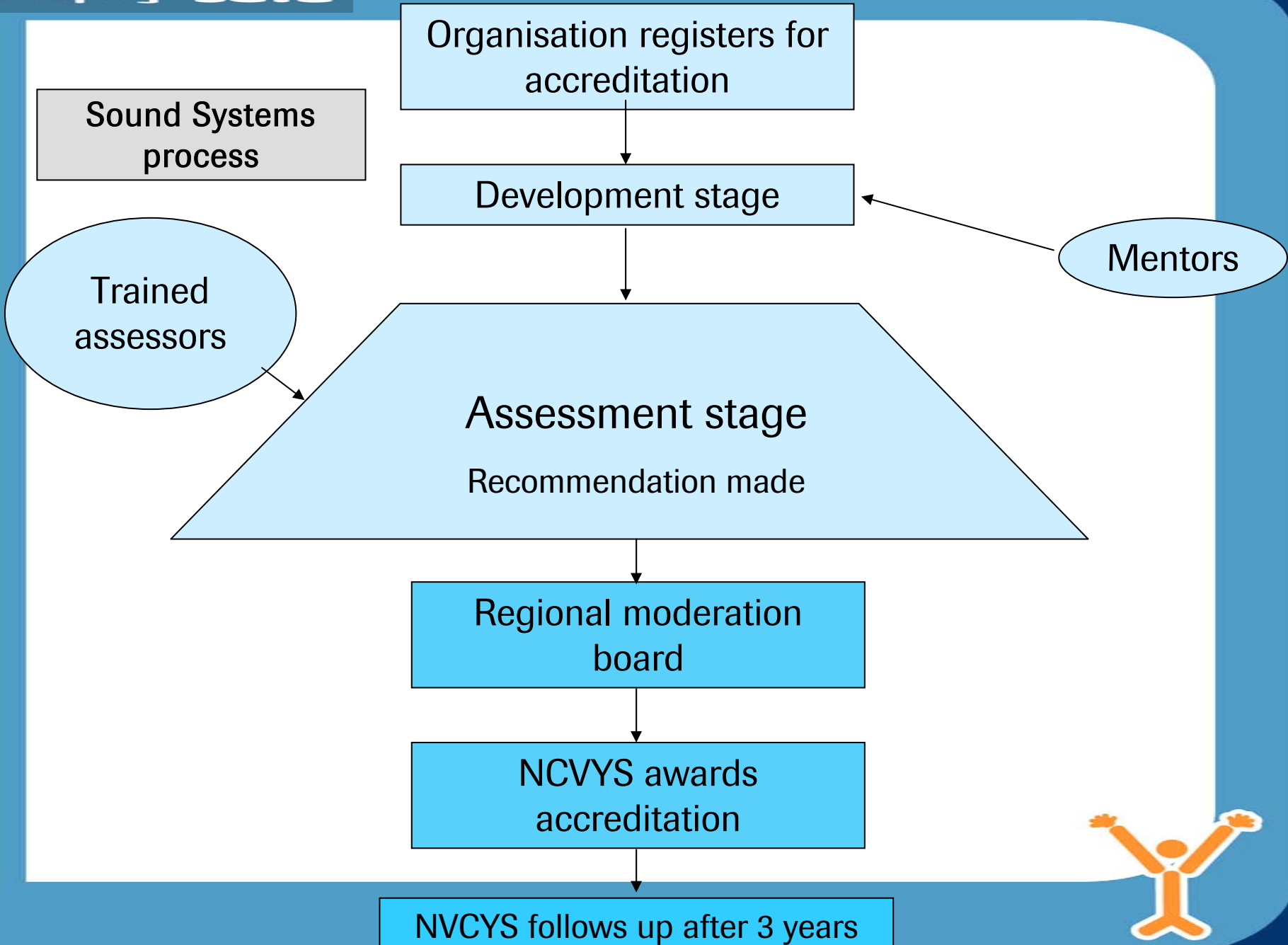
provides a robust system of moderation through NCVYS to ensure the quality of the process.



## Keeping it Safe (Sound Systems) standards

1. Organisational policies and procedures
2. Reporting concerns, suspicions and allegations
3. Safe recruitment and selection
4. Managing paid and volunteer staff
5. Providing education, training and support
6. Providing safe activities





Sound Systems process

Organisation registers for accreditation

Development stage

Mentors

Trained assessors

Assessment stage  
Recommendation made

Regional moderation board

NCVYS awards accreditation

NCVYS follows up after 3 years



# Training and Consultancy

NCVYS can offer training on:

- Child protection awareness
- Policy Writing
- Risk assessments
- Role of the designated officer
- Other tailor made training, e.g. safer residentials, safe recruitment and selection

And also:

- Consultancy / Advice
- Youth Participation support



## In summary

- Despite resource limitations, we owe it to young people to keep them as safe as we can
- It is accepted good practice to have policies and procedures in place
- Quality marks and safeguarding are increasingly key to membership and funding
  
- Options:
  - engage in accreditation scheme
  - access NCVYS's child protection training
  - contact us anytime for advice and guidance



Get in touch:

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and click on child protection





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