



**Service Policy: PREVPOL07
Children & Young Person Policy**

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Feb 2026	April 2028			

Amendment History:

Version	Date	Author	Reasons for Change
01	24.03.10		
02	28.03.11		12 Month Review
03	07.06.12		12 Month Review
04	26.03.15		12 Month Review
05	01.04.17		12 Month Review
06	01.04.18		12 Month Review
07	01.04.19		12 Month Review
08	01.04.22		12 Month Review
09	20/07/23		Prevention policy refresh – document review
10	12/03/24		Annual Review
11	01/04/26		Annual Review

Equalities Impact Assessment:

Initial	Full	Date	Reviewed by	Comments
	x			

Civil Contingencies Impact Assessment:

Date	Reviewed by	Comments

Related Documents:

Doc. Type	Ref No.	Title	Location

Distribution List:

Name	Position	Department

Sign-Off List:

Name	Position
AM Mark Thomas	Director of Prevention

Target Audience:

All MFRS	Principal Officers	Senior Officers	Operational Crews	Fire Safety	Community Fire Safety	Support Staff
x						

Ownership:

FOI exemption required?	Yes	x	URL
	No		Reason

Legislation:

Title	Fire Service Act 2004
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CRM		

PROPOL07-Children & Young Person Policy

1. Policy Introduction and Background:

Merseyside Fire and Rescue Service (MFRS) deliver Youth Engagement work on behalf of Merseyside Fire and Rescue Authority (the Authority). This policy will be used to assist the Service to meet the statutory duties imposed on the Authority to carry out prevention work and meet the needs of the community that we serve. It will also support the purpose of MF&RS vision To Be the Best Fire & Rescue Service in the UK. We will achieve this by working with stakeholders and partners to provide an excellent, affordable service to all the diverse communities of Merseyside.

2. Policy Explanation:

Youth Engagement sits within the Prevention Directorate and delivers targeted youth and community programmes to children and young people across Merseyside. Youth Engagement, in partnership with other services, aim to provide opportunities for children and young people to realize their potential to enable them to lead safe, healthy and productive lives. Our youth engagement work is underpinned by the Fire Services Act 2004, 'Every Child Matters' agenda and Working Together to Safeguard Children. Our Youth engagement work contributes towards the delivery of the Serious Violence Duty requirements which are a statutory duty for the Authority.

The Youth Engagement department will:

- Engage actively with children and young people from all diverse groups
- Contribute toward the prevention and reduction of fire crime and fire setting
- Work to divert children and young people from fire crime and anti-social behaviour
- Work to educate children and young people in fire safety skills and responsible citizenship
- Ensure that F&RS staff working with these groups are effective and professional
- Identify and disseminate good practice in working with children and young people

Areas of involvement include:

- Children Act 1989 & 2004
- National Fire Chief Council Children & Young People
- The Care Act 2014
- Keeping Children Safe in Education (September 2025)
- Working Together to Safeguard Children (March 2026)
- Crime and Disorder partnership strategies
- Every Child Matters and Local Authority Children and Young People Plans
- Performance Framework for Local Authorities and stakeholders
- Social Cohesion Strategies

The essential features of this department are:

- To embed and build an Adverse Childhood Experience (ACE's) resilient department
- A commitment to developing Restorative Practices
- Youth Engagement assurance to support the Community Safety Plan
- Outcome led vision- a focus on improved outcomes, informed by the views of children and their families from all diverse groups;
- Integrated front-line delivery – professionals working together around the needs of children, not constrained by organisational boundaries;
- Integrated processes- better assessments, information sharing and improved referrals mean children get the services they need quickly;
- Integrated strategy – joint commissioning of services and pooling of budgets and resources to drive multi agency working; and

Inter-agency governance – setting a clear framework for strategic planning, resource allocation and accountabilities.

3. Policy Implementation:

This policy will be implemented in accordance with procedures detailed in Prevention related Service instructions, specifically SI0999 working with Children & Young people.

All policies can be found on the [Website](#)