

SAFEGUARDING POLICY

- 1 ATSL recognises the general need to take necessary steps to safeguard and promote the welfare of children, young people and vulnerable adults who may come in contact with staff or students.**
 - 1.1 Persons under 21 years of age who are not physically capable of handling a horse unassisted will not be permitted to enrol upon the Dip ESM course as students
 - 1.2 The learning environment for students on ATSL courses will not normally involve interaction with persons not enrolled on the Dip ESM Course. Practical lectures will in the normal course of events take place in a communal barn with all students practising together and members of the public will not generally be permitted entry. However in the unlikely event that a third party unrelated to the Dip ESM course is present:
 - 1.2.1 Where a vulnerable adult is present in the vicinity of treatment due to their relationship to the animal being treated, ATSL will ensure that a third party responsible adult is present to ensure the physical safety of that individual and may require the responsible adult to ensure suitable distance of the vulnerable person from the animal being treated. In such event, ATSL will not leave a student unattended with a vulnerable person or animal. ATSL will not accept responsibility for the conduct of a vulnerable person where all sensible and reasonable precautions (including removal from the vicinity) relating to the vulnerable person have been suggested or undertaken to the best of ATSL's ability.
 - 1.2.2 Where a child (U-16) or young person (U-18) is present in the vicinity of treatment due to their relationship to the animal being treated (ie ownership) ATSL will use best endeavours to ensure that the child or young person is supervised by a parent or member of staff of the yard premises.
 - 1.2.3 For the avoidance of doubt, physical interaction between instructors or students of the Dip ESM course and any child, young person or vulnerable adult present is unnecessary and will not be permitted.
- 2 Reporting**
 - 2.1 Where ATSL or a student of any course raises safeguarding concerns about a member of the public or colleague with whom they may come in to contact within the course location/study environment then an immediate report will be made:
 - 6.2.1.1 in the case of a complaint against a fellow student or ATSL Staff member to the supervising instructor or to the Safeguarding Officer at the yard premises, whichever preferred; or
 - 6.2.1.2 in the case of a child, young person or vulnerable adult to the Safeguarding Officer at the yard premises or the Police.