

JUNIOR ADVENTURES GROUP UK

CURRICULUM Policy September 2026



S.A.F.E is the JAG UK safeguarding mascot he promotes JAG as clubs which provide.
Safe And Fun Experiences - Look out for S.A.F.E in our clubs.



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JAG Lead DSL Team - Key Contacts

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Policy Statement

JAG recognises its duty of care and is committed to safeguarding from harm and promoting the wellbeing of all children attending our clubs. All JAG policies and ways of working are in place to keep our clubs, the children, our colleagues and partners safe always.

All JAG colleagues are required to adhere to all obligations and requirements as set out in, but not limited to Early Years Statutory Framework 2026, Keeping Children Safe in Education 2026, Children's Wellbeing and Schools Act 2026, Crime and Policing Act 2026, Working together to Safeguard Children 2026, Holiday activities and food programme 2025 guidance, SEND Code of Conduct 2014, Health & Safety at Work Act 1974, Children's Act 1989, What to do if you are Worried a child is being Abused 2015 and Online Safety Act 2023. All JAG UK policies are underpinned by all current legislation and guidance.

JAG clubs are all registered with Ofsted and comply with all requirements of the Statutory Framework for the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS). JAG is committed to ensuring children are given every opportunity to reach their full potential by supporting their learning and development within a play-based environment.



The Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS)

Through the delivery of a JAG club and our specialised tailored Adventure Programme the four overarching principles of the EYFS are reflected

A UNIQUE CHILD

Every child attending JAG is constantly learning and can be resilient, capable, confident and self-assured. JAG promotes use of positive encouragement and praise to motivate children.

POSITIVE RELATIONSHIPS

At JAG children learn to be strong and independent through building positive relationships with peers and adults. JAG seeks to develop caring, respectful, professional relationships with children and families.

ENABLING ENVIRONMENTS

JAG understands that children learn and develop well in environments in which their experiences reflect their individual needs and where there is a strong partnership with parents/guardians. The JAG Adventure Programme promotes this.

LEARNING AND DEVELOPMENT

JAG tailor the experiences offered to the children according to their individual likes, interests, needs and abilities.



Meet and Greet

How we implement our Meet and Greet to ensure the **inclusion and participation** of every child, and help to promote their **wellbeing and happiness, creativity and learning**.

As children and their parent/guardian enter our club we want to ensure they are welcomed in a friendly and fun way... The JAG way!

JAG Welcome Greetings



Foot Tap



Silly Face



Hand Shake



Elbow Tap



Fist Bump



High Five

A big friendly JAG smile
Say Hello

Ask them which Welcome Greeting they will choose today



TOP TIP

Once children and their families become familiar with our Welcome Greetings, you will find that they do the one they have chosen as soon as they walk in.

Ensure you are getting **down** to the **child's level** to **talk to them** and see if they would like to point to the one that they would like to choose.

Remember We **encourage creativity and learning**, and these greetings are our starting point. If a child wants to do something different (*within reason of course*) then allow them to. You could even develop your very own club handshake.



Areas of Learning & Development

JAG is a wraparound care provider and as such is not required to deliver the Ofsted EYFS 7 areas of learning and development as part of its curriculum, however JAGs Adventure Programme and our everyday delivery is underpinned by this as best practice. Examples of ways JAG promotes the prime areas of learning and development in clubs are.

COMMUNICATION & LANGUAGE

- Conversations between children of differing ages and adults
- Children and adults listen to each other and share information
- Adults clarify and ask appropriate questions encouraging children to develop their own ideas

PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT

- Inside and outdoor games including climbing equipment
- Craft skills and construction
- Providing healthy food and water, helping children to understand the importance of being healthy

PERSONAL, SOCIAL & EMOTIONAL DEVELOPMENT

- Supporting children to build positive relationships and have respect for each other
- Supporting children to recognise and manage their feelings and those of others
- Consulting with children helping them to develop a sense of belonging
- Having clear boundaries, encouraging appropriate behaviours

Key Person

JAG allocates every early year's child a named key person which supports them in their transitions and to settle into the JAG club and supports bridge between school and home. The child and parents/guardians should be made aware of who their key person is.

The key person is responsible for getting to know the child, their likes, interests and needs and for developing relationships with the child and their family.

JAG ensures a key person is meeting the needs of a child in the following ways.

- Support any natural attachments a child has with a leader by reflecting this in the key person allocation
- A key person is sensitive to the needs of the child and inclusive
- Support learning and development through play
- Support the child with transitions
- Engage with parents/guardians regularly, providing sessional feedback
- Discuss any challenges with parents/guardians and find solutions
- Regular communication with schoolteachers on learning and development



KEY PERSON

Roles and responsibilities

Support any natural attachments a child has with a leader by reflecting this in the key person allocation

A key person is sensitive to the needs of the child and inclusive

Support learning and development through play

Support the child with transitions

Engage with parents/guardians regularly, providing sessional feedback

Discuss any challenges with parents/guardians and find solutions

Regular communication with school teachers on learning and development

Staffing arrangements (ratio)

JAG has an obligation to ensure staffing arrangements meet the needs of all children and ensure their safety and that of JAG leaders. Staffing arrangements must be suitable to enable JAG leaders to keep children within sight and/or always hearing.

JAG as a wraparound care provider is not governed by set adult to child ratios. It is the responsibility of the General manager to determine how many JAG leaders are required, based on the club blueprint whilst always ensuring safety and welfare, considering.

- Ages and needs of the children
- Types of activity being delivered
- Operational planning

However, in JAG settings, where Nursery aged Wrap around Care is provided, which is attended by 2- and 3-year-old children, JAG follows the EYFS (2026) guidance that states the following staff to child ratios are required, but also that the staff are required to hold specific qualifications to be in ratio:

- For children aged two: There must be at least one member of staff for every five children (1:5). At least one member of staff must hold an approved level 3 qualification. At least half of all other staff must hold an approved level 2 qualification.
- For children aged three: There must be at least one member of staff for every 8 children (1:8). At least one other member of staff must hold an approved level 3 qualification.



Nursery children (age 2 & 3 years)

- For children aged two: There must be at least one member of staff for every five children (1:5). At least one member of staff must hold an approved level 3 qualification. At least half of all other staff must hold an approved level 2 qualification.
- For children aged three: There must be at least one member of staff for every 8 children (1:8). At least one other member of staff must hold an approved level 3 qualification.

Play work principles

- In addition to the EYFS JAG has regard to the Play work Principles giving children the freedom to choose how they occupy their time.
- JAG clubs provide a balance of adult led and child-initiated activities. Children are never forced to participate in anything they do not want to participate in.

Promoting British Values

At JAG we promote British Values and expect all leaders to uphold these by creating an environment where mutual respect is fostered.

Through JAG everyday delivery and our Adventure Programme children are encouraged to make choices and to build strong relationships with their peers and adults. JAG believe that children flourish best when their personal, social and emotional needs are met and where there are clear expectations on behaviour.

JAG will challenge any child, parent or leader who expresses opinions contrary to fundamental British Values.

JAG embeds the following values in everyday practices which encourage empathy for others, respect and tolerance.



DEMOCRACY

Children are encouraged to make decisions together and have input into how their club is run. The children's comments, ideas and suggestions are listened to and where reasonably possible their suggestions for activities are acted on.

JAG leaders support children in turn taking, sharing and collaborating and encourage the children to question and evaluate ideas and activities whilst having respect for the opinions of others.

RULE OF LAW

JAG leaders have high expectations for children's behaviours and reinforce positive behaviour through praise and further encouragement. All JAG leaders are expected to be positive role models. JAG leaders provide children with strategies to enable them to resolve conflict without intervention where possible.

The reasons for expectations are explained so children can understand why these are in place, especially around safety.

INDIVIDUAL LIBERTY

Children are encouraged to make choices, for example from the activities on offer, who they interact with or the food choices they make.

Children are encouraged to have a positive sense of themselves and are given opportunities to develop their self-esteem and confidence.

JAG leaders provide children with a range of activities and encourage children to access risks both physical and emotional.

By sharing experiences children develop a sense of belonging along with an understanding of different opinions and the feelings of others.

MUTUAL RESPECT AND TOLERANCE

JAG has an ethos of inclusion and tolerance and value all children and their families. An appreciation of differences in families, religion, culture and traditions promotes the diversity of the children's experiences and any form of stereotyping will be challenged by JAG leaders.

British Values are promoted in JAG clubs in the ways; this list is not exhaustive.

- Celebrating festivals and occasions
- Turn taking including in conversations
- Being kind and helpful
- Socially acceptable manners including table manners and use of 'please' and 'thank you'
- Choices of fruits and vegetables for snack
- Being respectful to others
- Understanding and having empathy
- Learning right from wrong
- Listening to others
- Making friends
- Cooking and learning about food
- Learning about the seasons and weathers
- Supporting charity events nationally and locally
- Knowing the local community

Outings & Excursions

JAG's priority when undertaking outings is the health and safety of all children and leaders.

Outings and excursions provide the opportunity for children to participate in activities outside of the normal environment and to develop a knowledge and understanding of their local community.

All outings and excursions must be authorised by the General Manager. Full details of all planned outings and excursions must be shared with safeguarding@junioradventuresgroup.co.uk at least 24 hours prior to the outing taking place.

The most senior leader of the club must inform parents/guardians of the details of the outing in advance and obtain prior written permission for all children to take part from parents/guardians. JAG's priority when undertaking outings is the health, safety and wellbeing of all children and JAG leaders. Outings and excursions provide valuable opportunities for children to participate in activities outside of their normal environment and to develop awareness of, and connection to, their local community.



OUTINGS / EXCURSIONS

RISK ASSESSMENT:

Complete and record a full risk assessment, including location, route, and facilities

PERMISSION FORMS:

Obtain signed and dated permission forms for every child.

REGISTER AND RATIOS:

Maintain a register of children and leaders, ensuring appropriate safety ratios. Supervise children at all times!

ADVANCE NOTIFICATION:

Send all outing details to safeguarding@junioradventuresgroup.co.uk at least 24 hours before the outing.

FIRST AID:

Assign at least one leader with current pediatric first aid training.

HIGH - VIS JACKETS:

All Children and Young People must wear high vis jackets at all times

CLUB PHONE:

JAG leaders must have a fully charged Club phone with them at all times & walkie talkies for team communication



Before undertaking an outing

Prior to any outing, the following requirements must be met:

A full outing-specific Risk Assessment must be completed and recorded, including:

- planned location route
- method of travel (including transport arrangements)
- facilities available
- venue boundaries and access points
- emergency evacuation procedures
- Permission form obtained, fully completed, signed and dated for every child.
- Register of children and JAG leaders, ensuring appropriate staffing levels and ratios suitable for the level of risk.
- Ratios must be increased for higher-risk activities, public spaces, coach travel or high-energy activities.
- At least one paediatric first aid trained leader named for the outing.
- Information shared with parents/guardians including venue, contact details, estimated return time, required food/drink/clothing, and any additional costs.
- All information shared with safeguarding@junioradventuresgroup.co.uk at least 24 hours in advance.

Transport to and from outings (coach or minibus)

Where coach or minibus transport is used:

- Only approved and vetted transport providers may be used.
- Transport arrangements must be included within the outing-specific Risk Assessment.
- Children must be seated promptly, and seat belts must be worn at all times; leaders conduct visual checks before departure and during the journey.
- Leaders must be seated strategically throughout the vehicle to supervise behaviour and ensure safety.
- Embarkation and disembarkation must be fully supervised to prevent CYP approaching traffic or unknown adults.
- Registers and headcounts must be taken before boarding, after boarding, and upon arrival.
- First aid, medications and emergency contacts must be readily accessible during travel.
- Leaders must have a plan for delays, including access to drinking water and communication with families.

Items to be taken on an outing

- Fully stocked first aid kit
- Any required children's medications
- Children's details
- Register of children and JAG leaders
- Club mobile phone and walkie talkies
- Fresh drinking water
- High-vis jackets, which must be worn at all times when off site
- Public spaces and private-hire venues

When attending public or private-hire venues:

- A full venue walkthrough must be undertaken in advance to identify boundaries, blind spots, entry/exit points and supervision positions.
- Clear, visible boundaries must be communicated to children before the activity begins.
- Leaders must supervise key access points and challenge any unknown adult attempting to interact with children.
- High-vis jackets must be worn at all times in public spaces.
- Private-hire spaces must be secured to prevent public access during use.
- Toilet facilities must be checked for other users before entry and supervised in line with JAG's toilet procedures.

Active, high-energy and child-led play during outings

During high-energy, physical or child-led activities:

- Leaders must conduct dynamic risk assessments throughout the session.
- Activity areas must be inspected for hazards including surface condition, obstructions, broken equipment or blind spots.
- Activities must be adapted to the age, maturity, needs and behaviour of participating children.
- Leaders must maintain active supervision and full visibility of all children.
- Clear safety boundaries and behavioral expectations must be explained prior to activities starting.
- Hydration breaks must be provided regularly.
- Group sizes must be managed to prevent overcrowding or unsafe play.
- First aid provision must be accessible at all times, with a first aid trained leader present.

Whilst on the outing

- When walking, all walking bus procedures must be followed.
- All children must wear high-vis jackets at all times without exception.
- Outing details and location must be displayed at the club's main entrance.
- Each leader must have a list of the children assigned to them.
- Headcounts must be completed at least every 30 minutes, and more frequently during transitions or movement.
- An emergency meeting point must be agreed, with all leaders and children aware of it.
- Walkie-talkies and JAG mobile phones must be carried by all leaders to aid communication.
- Fresh drinking water must be readily available throughout the outing.

External Provider-Led Activities

JAG may invite external providers onto premises to deliver specialist activities that enhance the JAG curriculum and Adventure Programme. These may include sports, water-based activities, performing arts, movement, STEM, wellbeing, or creative experiences.

To ensure the safety and wellbeing of all children:

- All external providers must meet JAG safeguarding requirements, including **current DBS** and identity verification.

- Providers must submit an **activity-specific risk assessment/insurance cover** in advance. This is reviewed by the General Manager or most senior leader on site.
- A JAG leader must always be present during externally delivered sessions and retains responsibility for behaviour, supervision, and safeguarding.
- JAG leaders complete a **dynamic risk assessment** throughout all high-energy, equipment-based or child-led activities.
- Any equipment brought on site by providers must meet safety standards and be checked by JAG leaders prior to use.
- Clear expectations and safety rules must be explained to children prior to the activity beginning.
- Activities must be adapted to ensure suitability for children aged **4–12**, reflecting developmental differences.
- JAG retains the right to modify or terminate any activity deemed unsafe.

External providers are partners in delivering experiences but do not replace JAG’s safeguarding responsibility. JAG leaders always maintain accountability.

Lost child

If a child cannot be located at any point during the outing, the lost child procedures outlined in the Attendance Policy must be implemented immediately.

Swimming & water activities

Swimming is an important life skill and beneficial activity for acquiring an increased movement vocabulary in younger children. JAG where available will access and aim to engage children in water activities and swimming, having fun and learning valuable skills for life.

Children changing

Children will change for swimming and water activities in gender specific spaces; these are generally school group changing facilities either in a school or leisure center. These areas will be always supervised by JAG leaders from a suitable distance, always maintaining safety and within hearing of all children whilst not imposing on the privacy of the children. Where possible male and female JAG leaders will supervise gender specific groups, where this is not possible a second JAG leader must be present. Allocated changing spaces are used by JAG only during these times.

Children can, if they request, utilise separate individual cubical facilities if these are available. Most senior JAG club leaders confirm which cubicles are for JAG use at any given time.

JAG posters advising of use of facilities to be displayed in changing areas when in use. JAG leaders check changing areas are free of other users prior to children entering.

During changing times safeguarding of the children and JAG leaders should never be compromised and supervision must remain in place.

Children must be always supervised by JAG leaders in changing areas. Children must not be left unsupervised or leave changing facilities unsupervised.

JAG leaders changing

JAG leaders changing for swimming or water play activities must do so in a private cubicle either before or after children are changing. Children must be supervised by other JAG leaders at this time.

JAG leaders' suitable swimwear

JAG leaders must adhere to the following swimwear rules.

Female leaders – one piece swimming costume, JAG t-shirt and sports shorts

Male leaders – Swim/sports shorts and JAG t-shirt

Swimming assessments

Parents/guardians are asked to confirm the child's abilities when they book onto the session via the booking system.

Swimming teachers will require every child to undertake a swimming-based assessment at the start of every session, enabling them to evaluate the child's capabilities and the need for any swimming aids.

Swim aids

JAG and our Leisure centre partners are not required to provide swimming aids to individual children, although if a child is deemed out of their depth or not confident these may be supplied if available.

If a child has their own swim aids the swimming teacher may inspect the suitability of these. If deemed unsuitable then the child will not be permitted to wear these during the session and alternatives may be provided.

It is at the discretion of the swimming teacher as to whether it is safe for a child to take part in swimming, if not they will not be permitted to take and JAG leaders must explain to the child why and inform their parents.

Pool areas and general public

- JAG will be given access to a designated area within the pools which are sectioned off from public use during the swimming session
- Children attending JAG are not permitted to attend public inflatable sessions – if there is option for a JAG exclusive inflatable session this can be authorised by the General manager
- Pool rules and water safety to be discussed with the children prior to every session and always adhered to

Safe & Compliant swimming

JAG work closely with our Leisure centre partners to strictly ensure a safe and compliant swimming session following ASA guidelines.

- Swimming sessions will follow the same guidelines as a school swimming lesson in line with ASA guidelines, enabling children under the age of 8 years old to participate in a structured session



- The Leisure centre will provide a qualified swimming instructor daily, times to be dictated by the Centre to avoid conflict with public or other sessions
- If the swimming sessions are held at the same time as other/public sessions the centre must ensure separate changing areas and designated pool spaces are available for sole use
- Swimming sessions can be structured as a swimming lesson which children must take part in accordingly
- JAG to always have at least one leader in the water with the children and additional leaders pool side
- The centre will provide the required swimming teacher and allocate a lifeguard



If a child gets into difficulty in the water JAG leaders and the centre lifeguards or swimming teacher are to remove the child from the water immediately and follow the centre's guidance on actions. Following the incident JAG leaders must inform the parents/guardians and complete an incident log.

Ratios for swimming sessions

	Under 8s	Over 8s
Swimming teacher	1:12	Can be JAG UK colleagues only but a swimming teacher is preferable
JAG Colleagues	1:8 (always including the swim teacher) with a minimum of one in the water	1:12

If no swimming teacher is available then under 8's are not to enter the water, this may result in swimming not being available on specific days.

Adventure Programme

JAG are proud of their Whole of Child journey and are passionate about providing high-quality experiences for children.

The JAG Adventure Programme is our bespoke curriculum designed to add depth and richness to a child's learning beyond the classroom.

Our Adventure Programme is underpinned by.

- Early Years Statutory Framework – 7 areas of Learning and Development
- Play work Principles
- Play theory



JAG leaders are required to plan, prepare and implement a variety of activities and experiences for the children daily. Activities and experiences should be reflective of the Adventure Programme and the Children's voice.

Children's meeting

Children will be invited to take part in a weekly children's meeting where they are encouraged to share their ideas and suggestions for the club. The children's ideas and suggestions will then be used by the JAG leaders to plan the activities and experiences for the following week.



The image shows two forms: 'Children's Meeting' and 'Weekly Adventure Planner'. The 'Children's Meeting' form includes sections for 'Rise then Shine Stay and Play', 'Want to own your great ideas?', 'Choose your Adventure!', 'Create & Innovate', and 'Our Club, Our Voice'. The 'Weekly Adventure Planner' form includes a table for 'Walking Check-in', 'Zones', 'Start of Play', 'End of Play', and 'Walking Check-out', along with 'This Week's Focus' and 'Our Community' sections.

Zones

JAG clubs are set up with continual provision prior to the children arriving for the session, this provision is in the form of zones. A club will have a minimum of three zones in place, depending on the size the club more may be required to provide suitable activities for the number of children attending.

Zones can include but are not limited to.

- Loose parts
- Construction
- Games
- Creative
- Chill out
- Sensory
- Small world

All clubs are provided with all equipment and resources required. Should a JAG club require a kit replenishment please email resources@junioradventuresgroup.co.uk

HHQ

JAG has a program of activities, incursions, excursions and experience for holiday clubs known as HHQ. HHQ is underpinned by the same principles as the JAG Adventure Programme. Example of the JAG Adventure Program and HHQ can be found on the JAG website