

SHVH Safeguarding Policy

Principles

The welfare of the child or vulnerable adult is paramount and is the responsibility of everyone. All children and vulnerable adults, without exception, have the right to protection from abuse, whether physical, verbal, sexual, bullying, exclusion or neglect. Bullying, shouting, physical violence, sexism and racism towards anyone, including children and vulnerable adults will not be permitted or tolerated.

Policy

1. No member of the trustees, helpers or other volunteers or contractors will have unsupervised access to children or vulnerable adults unless they have undertaken appropriate training in the protection of children and vulnerable adults.
2. All Village Hall volunteers need to be aware of this policy, child protection, and vulnerable adult issues, and should be offered introductory training.
3. All suspicions or allegations of abuse against a child will be taken seriously and dealt with speedily and appropriately.
4. The current Chair of Trustees acts as the Village Hall vulnerable users representative to whom any suspicions or concerns about activities within the Village hall or its grounds, including the play area, should be reported.
5. The Trustees, through its Operations Group, will endeavour to keep the premises safe for use by children and vulnerable adults. The Trustees recognise that a higher standard of safety is required where use is made by small children, those who cannot read safety notices and physically disabled adults.
6. Any organisations or individuals hiring the hall for the purposes of holding activities where Ofsted registration is required should show their registration, their own Child Protection Policy.
7. Any organisations or individuals hiring the hall for purposes which may include the attendance of children or vulnerable adults are responsible for designating a suitable Safeguarding lead for the duration of the hire, who will be responsible for ensuring that safeguarding matters are dealt with appropriately for the duration of the hire period.
8. The committee will ensure that hirers are made aware of their obligations under the Licensing Act 2003 to ensure that alcohol is not sold to those under the age of 18. The committee will ensure that hirers are aware that no children may be admitted to films when they are below the age classification for the film or show. No commercial gambling or entertainment of an adult or sexual nature shall be permitted on the premises.
9. These policies and procedures will be reviewed annually and updated as appropriate in the interim periods.