



Safeguarding Policy

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3. Introduction

Please read [ACRE's Information Sheet 5: Safeguarding](#), which gives a fuller clarificatory statement of safeguarding matters.

3.1 Purpose

The purpose of the policy is to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and vulnerable adults at risk from abuse or neglect. It defines how Breedon Parish Hall operates to safeguard children, young people and vulnerable adults.

The Management Committee has a duty of care and is committed to the protection and safety of everyone who enters the village hall including children, young people and Vulnerable adults whether as visitors and/or as participants in all activities and events. This duty of care extends to all our trustees, volunteers and staff, as well as visitors and contractors.

3.2 Definitions

3.2.1 This policy applies to all staff, contractors and volunteers and will be used to support their work.

3.2.2 *Children and young people* are defined as persons aged under 18 years old.

3.2.3 Safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children is defined as:

- protecting children from ill treatment;
- preventing impairment of children's health and development;
- ensuring that children grow up in circumstances consistent with the provision of safe and effective care;
- taking action to enable all children to have the best outcomes.

3.2.4 Vulnerable adults

For the purposes of this policy, 'vulnerable adult' refers to anyone over the age of 18 who, according to paragraph 4.2 of the [Care Act 2014](#):

- has care and support needs;
- is experiencing, or is at risk of, abuse or neglect;
- as a result of their care and support needs is unable to protect himself or herself against the abuse or neglect or the risk of it.

If someone has care and support needs but is not currently receiving care or support from a health or care service, they may still be an adult at risk.

4. Policy Principles

4.1 All reasonable action should be taken to protect adults at risk of abuse, exploitation, radicalisation and mistreatment, since all citizens of the United Kingdom have their rights enshrined in the [Human Rights Act 1998](#).

4.2 People who are eligible to receive health and community care services may also be vulnerable to the violation of these rights by reason of disability, impairment, age, or illness.

4.3 Breedon Parish Hall charity is committed to a zero-tolerance approach to abuse.

4.4 Breedon Parish Hall Management Committee recognises that under the [Care Act 2014](#), it has a duty of care and protection for adults at risk of abuse. It also recognises its responsibilities for the safety and care of children under the [Children Act 1989](#) and [Children Act 2004](#).

4.5 Breedon Parish Hall charity is committed to promoting wellbeing, harm prevention and responding effectively if concerns are raised.

5. Procedures

5.1 All members of the Committee will sign the [Declaration of Acceptance of Office for Trustees](#) which includes a declaration that they have no convictions in relation to abuse.

5.2 All members of the Committee will familiarise themselves with safeguarding responsibilities, undertake training where appropriate on safeguarding issues and ensure that they understand the principles set out in this policy at 3 above.

5.3 All members of the Management Committee will work together to promote a culture that enables issues about safeguarding and promoting welfare to be addressed.

5.4 All members of the Committee, helpers or other volunteers will not have unsupervised access to children, young adults or others at risk.

5.5 The Management Committee has a named Safeguarding Officer (Helen Hall) whose responsibility it is to monitor and ensure that persons responsible for any activity held in the Parish Hall are made aware of, and comply with, this Safeguarding Policy.

5.6 All suspicions or allegations of abuse against a child or adult at risk will be taken seriously and dealt with speedily and appropriately. The appointed person will know whom to contact and where to go for support and advice in relation to an allegation, a concern about the quality of care or practice or a complaint. An allegation may relate to a person who works with children or adults at risk who has:

- Behaved in a way that has harmed a child or adult at risk or may have harmed a child or adult at risk.
- Possibly committed a criminal offence against, or related to, a child or adult at risk; or
- Behaved towards a child (or children) or adult at risk in a way that indicates they may pose a risk of harm to children or adults at risk.

5.7 Breedon Parish Hall Management Committee will ensure that all hirers of the hall have signed a hiring agreement. This will require all hirers who wish to use the hall for activities which include children and adults at risk, other than for hire for private parties arranged for invited friends and family, to either produce a copy of their Safeguarding Policy and evidence that they have carried out relevant checks through the [Disclosure and Barring Service \(DBS\)](#) when requested to do so or, confirm that they have understood and will adhere to the hall's principles and procedures with regard to safeguarding.

5.8 The policy will be reviewed annually.

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Appendix

Resources

[ACRE's Information Sheet 5: Safeguarding](#)

[Care Act 2014](#)

[Human Rights Act 1998](#)

[Children Act 1989](#)

[Children Act 2004](#)

[Declaration of Acceptance of Office for Trustees](#)

[Disclosure and Barring Service \(DBS\)](#)