

Cublington Village Hall Safeguarding Policy

1. Purpose

Safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and adults at risk from abuse or neglect.

We have a duty of care and are committed to the protection and safety of everyone who uses our premises including children, young people and adults at risk. We also have a responsibility to safeguard and support our trustees, committee member and volunteers.

This policy defines how Cublington Village Hall operates to safeguard children, young people, vulnerable adults. The policy is about stopping abuse where it is happening and preventing abuse where there is a risk that it may occur. This includes but not limited to physical abuse or neglect, sexual harm or exploitation, emotional and psychological abuse or financial exploitation.

2. Definitions

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

Adult at risk of abuse or neglect for the purposes of this policy refers to someone over 18 years old who, according to Section 42 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.

Persons affected

Trustees, committee members and volunteers

Those attending any activity or service that is being delivered by Cublington Village Hall.

Visitors and contractors.

3. Policy principles

Cublington Village Hall recognises its responsibilities for the safety and care of children under the Children Act 1989 and 2004 Act and recognises that under the Care Act 2014, it has a duty for the care and protection of adults who are at risk of abuse. The Charity is committed to promoting wellbeing, harm prevention and to responding effectively if concerns are raised and has a zero-tolerance approach to abuse.

- The welfare of the child, young person or adult at risk is paramount.
- All children, young people and adults at risk have the right to protection from abuse and exploitation
- All suspicions and allegations of abuse must be properly reported to the relevant internal and external authorities and dealt with swiftly and appropriately.

- Cublington Village Hall supports the work of Buckinghamshire Safeguarding Children Partnership on the development and implementation of procedures for the protection of children and adults at risk.
- Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility The policy is about stopping abuse where it is happening and preventing abuse where there is a risk that it may occur.

4. Procedures

- Trustees must sign a Trustee Eligibility Declaration (See Appendix B below).
- Trustees and members of the committee must read the Safeguarding Policy and familiarise themselves with their responsibilities under Section 3 above.
- Trustees and members of the committee must work together to promote a culture that enables issues about safeguarding and promoting welfare to be addressed.
- No Trustee, member of the committee, helper, or volunteers shall have unsupervised access to children or adults at risk unless appropriately vetted.
- A member of the committee will be appointed to be responsible for child and adult at risk safeguarding matters. This person has responsibility for reporting concerns that arise, as a matter of urgency, to the relevant safeguarding agency (see Appendix B)

The Designated Safeguarding Lead is Dr Michael Alexander (see Appendix A)

- All suspicions or allegations of abuse against a child or adult at risk must be dealt with speedily and appropriately. 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 future risk of harm to children or adults at risk.
- The Village Hall committee requires that 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.

The Village Hall committee in partnership with the Charity Trustees will carry out an annual review of this policy at the Annual General Meeting.

Appendix A

If you are concerned about a child or vulnerable adult it is important that you talk to someone about this. Don't ignore your concerns or delay taking action.

Buckinghamshire Safeguarding Children Partnership

How to report a concern about a child

If there is an immediate risk of harm to a child, call the Police on 999, otherwise ring

01296 383962 between 9am to 5.30pm Monday to Thursday, 9am to 5pm Friday.

If you need an urgent response outside of these hours, contact 0800 999 7677.

Buckinghamshire Safeguarding Adults Board

How to report a concern about a vulnerable adult

If there is immediate risk of harm to a vulnerable adult, call the Police on 999, otherwise ring

0800 137 915 between 9am to 5.30pm Monday to Thursday, 9am to 5pm Friday

If you need an urgent response outside of these hours, contact 0800 999 7677

ascfirstresponse@buckinghamshire.gov.uk

Cublington Village Hall Designated Safeguarding Lead

Dr Michael Alexander

cublingtonvillagehall@gmail.com

Appendix B

Trustee Statement of Eligibility

Cublington Village Hall – Charity number 280504

Declaration by Charity Trustees

I have received and studied the governing document of the charity and Safeguarding Policy and support its purposes.

I understand my duties and responsibilities as one of the Charity's Trustees (Please refer to the Charity Commission Leaflet CC3a: Responsibilities of Charity Trustees)

I am not under 18 years of age and am not disqualified from serving as a Trustee, and in the event of my becoming disqualified, will take no further part in the affairs of the charity whilst such disqualification lasts.

By completing and signing this form, you declare that you:

- are willing to act as a Trustee of the organisation named above
- understand the organisation's purposes and rules set out in its governing document
- are not prevented from acting as a Trustee because you have an unspent conviction for one or more of the listed offences,
 - have an IVA, debt relief order and/or a bankruptcy order,
 - have been removed as a trustee in England, Scotland, or Wales (by the Charity Commission or Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator)
 - have been removed from being in the management or control of a body in Scotland (under relevant legislation)
 - have been disqualified by the Charity Commission or are a disqualified company director,
 - are a designated person for the purposes of anti-terrorism legislation
 - are on the sex offenders register or have been found in contempt of court for making (or causing to be made) a false statement,
 - have been found guilty of disobedience to an order or direction of the Charity Commission.

Name:

Home Address:

Date of Birth:

Date: Signature: