

Carbrooke Village Hall Safeguarding Policy

This statement of policy and procedures applies to users of, and activities in, Carbrooke Village Hall and any ancillary activities which are the responsibility of the Village Hall Trust. This policy is in place to protect all children and vulnerable adults regardless of gender, ethnicity, disability, sexuality, religion or faith.

The welfare of the child or vulnerable adult is paramount and is the responsibility of everyone. All children and vulnerable adults have the right to protection from abuse whether physical, verbal, sexual, bullying, exclusion or neglect.

All people associated with the Village Hall and its use have a responsibility for the safeguarding of children and vulnerable adults. The Village Hall committee will endeavour to keep the premises safe for use.

No member of the Trustees or volunteers will have unsupervised access to children or vulnerable adults unless in possession of appropriate clearance such as DBS.

The Village Hall Committee will ensure that all hirers/users of the Hall are aware that any safeguarding of children or vulnerable adults is the responsibility of the hirers and that they are in charge of any necessary arrangements.

Any organisations or individuals hiring the Hall for the purpose of holding activities where Ofsted registration is required should show their registration and their own Child Protection Policy.

Hirers need to be aware that facilities such as the toilets might be shared with other groups and Café users and that appropriate supervision/arrangements should be made.

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 and that no children may be admitted to films when they are below the age classification for the film or show. No gambling or entertainment of an adult or sexual nature shall be permitted on the premises.

Acceptance of the Village Hall's safeguarding policy is part of the agreed contract taken out on hiring the Hall. All suspicions or allegations of abuse against a vulnerable adult or child will be taken seriously and dealt with speedily and appropriately as possible.

A copy of this policy is available on the Village Hall website and will be displayed for the attention of all on the Hall notice board. The policy will be reviewed on a regular basis.

These policies and procedures will be reviewed annually and updated as appropriate in the interim periods.

Further advice and support may be found from the following sources:

Child Protection: NSPCC – www.nspcc.org.uk or 0116 234 7223

NSPCC Child Protection Helpline – 0808 800 5000

Criminal Records Bureau – www.disclosure.gov.uk

Save the Children – www.scfuk.org.uk

Early Years Partnerships – based in County Council Social Services depts.

Vulnerable Adults Protection: Action on Elder Abuse – helpline 0808 808 814