

ROCKCLIFFE VILLAGE HALL SAFEGUARDING POLICY

Adopted by full council 18th March 2019 Revision date March 2020

Policy Statement

In the interests of child protection and the welfare and protection of vulnerable adults, Rockcliffe Village Hall is committed to ensuring that children and vulnerable adults are protected and kept safe from harm whilst they are engaged in any activity associated with Rockcliffe Village Hall.

Policy Objective:

- To ensure that where possible all facilities and activities offered by Rockcliffe Village Hall are designed and maintained to limit risk to children and vulnerable adults.
- To promote the general welfare, health and development of children by being aware of child protection issues and to be able to respond where appropriate as a local government organisation.
- As Rockcliffe Village Hall does not directly provide care of supervision services to children and vulnerable adults, it expects all children and vulnerable adults using its facilities to do so with the consent and the necessary supervision of a parent, carer or other responsible adult.

Aims

The aim of this policy document is to guide members of Rockcliffe Village Hall Committee should any child protection issue or any issues with vulnerable adults arise during their work.

Responsibilities & Procedures

A Safeguarding Officer will be appointed from within Rockcliffe Village Hall Committee and his/her responsibilities will include:

- Ensuring that before any Rockcliffe Village Hall organised event with children or vulnerable persons, the Child Protection Officer briefs participants appropriately.
- Ensuring that members are aware of the risk they may face in certain circumstances whilst carrying out their duties.
- Ensuring that whilst Rockcliffe Village Hall is unlikely to be involved with children during the performance of their duties they are mindful of the risk they face.
- Ensuring that before any volunteers or paid members of staff are recruited to work with children and vulnerable persons they are interviewed, and two references taken up.
- Decisions on whether any person should undergo a debarring check will be made by the Rockcliffe Village Hall Committee following a risk assessment.

- All new members of Rockcliffe Village Hall Committee are to be provided with a copy of the Safeguarding Policy and are required to acknowledge they will abide by it.
- Members will adhere to the 'List of Recommended Behaviour' namely:
 - A minimum of two adults present when supervising children.
 - Not to play physical contact games.
 - Adults to wear appropriate clothing at all times.
 - Ensure that accidents are recorded in an accident book.
 - Never do anything of a personal nature for a young person.
- Keep records in an incident book of any allegations a young person may make to any committee member or volunteer. Incident book to be presented to every meeting of the Rockcliffe Village Hall Committee for inspection.
- If there is a child abuse incident it should be reported to the Safeguarding Officer who will be responsible for ensuring the matter is handled in accordance with the Local Safeguarding Children Board procedures and also referred to the Council for further action as appropriate and future risk assessment.
- Sharing information about child protection and good practice with partner organisations, councillors, employees, volunteers, parents and carers.
- In the event of a contractor, working directly for Rockcliffe Village Hall, being deemed to be working in any area where children or vulnerable adults may be at risk, then that contractor will be asked to provide their Safeguarding Policy.

Any organisation which may make contact with children or vulnerable adults shall be required to show proof of its own appropriate Safeguarding Policy before being allowed to participate in the use of any council owned facilities.

Declaration

Rockcliffe Village Hall Committee is fully committed to safeguarding the well-being of children and vulnerable adults by protecting them from physical, sexual, emotional harm and neglect.

All members of Rockcliffe Village Hall Committee should read the Safeguarding Policy. Having read the policy, they should be proactive in providing a safe environment for children and vulnerable people who are involved in Rockcliffe Village Hall activities.

This Policy will be reviewed annually.