

Yelling Village Hall

Safeguarding Policy

The Management Committee and Trustees of Yelling Village Hall have a duty to safeguard children and adults at risk who utilise the Village Hall and its facilities, and those who may come into contact with vulnerable users.

The welfare of the child or adults at risk 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 children or vulnerable persons will not be permitted or tolerated.

Adults at Risk

Our safeguarding duties apply to any adult who may be at increased risk of harm, who has need of care, who is experiencing abuse or neglect or who is unable to protect themselves because of the vulnerabilities described.

Our particular focus will concern adults with physical or learning disability or older people.

The Committee extends the same duty of care in relation to adults at risk as to children. The Committee may, where appropriate, require the Hirer to comply with the requirements of the Child Protection Policy Statements 1 to 5 in relation to vulnerable adults.

The premises provide access and facilities designed to facilitate use by adults at risk including those using wheelchairs but hirers must satisfy themselves that the premises and its facilities are suitable for their users.

Issued by
Yelling Village Hall Committee
August 2014

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Child Protection Policy

Guiding Principles

The welfare of the child is paramount. We wish to safeguard children using our community buildings. All children, without exception, have the right to protection from abuse. Yelling Village Hall Committee and Trustees will support this overriding principle by following these **Policies** and **Procedures**:

1. **Policy:** No member of the Trustees, helpers or other volunteers will have unsupervised access to children unless appropriately vetted in accordance with current regulation, legislation and good practice guidance.
Procedure: All members of the Trustees, helpers or other volunteers will be made aware of this policy and the relevant vetting procedures. Should checks become necessary, they will be undertaken in compliance with the Protection of Children Act 1999, the Children Act 1989 and Part V of the Police Act 1997 or any subsequent legislation.
2. **Policy:** All suspicions or allegations of abuse against a child will be taken seriously and dealt with speedily and appropriately.
Procedure: A Trustee will be appointed to be responsible for Child Protection Matters. This person will have responsibility for checking and keeping a record of the DBS checks of anyone providing activity/events for children and for reporting concerns that arise, as a matter of urgency, to the local authority Child Protection lead agency.
3. **Policy:** All trustees and volunteers will be required to become aware of Child Protection issues.
Procedure: Copies of the relevant Acts and Department of Health guidelines will, if necessary, be held by the Trustees as reference material for volunteers. Relevant Child Protection training for trustees will be encouraged.
4. **Policy:** The policies and procedures will be regularly reviewed.
Procedure: An annual review will take place following the AGM to allow for any required up-date of policies and or procedures. New trustees and volunteers will be provided with an understanding of their responsibilities in matters of child protection.
5. **Policy:** Members of the local community who use the facilities provided by the Group should be aware of the Child Protection policies as adopted by the Group.
Procedure: All hirers who wish to use the hall for activities which include children and vulnerable adults, other than for hire for private parties arranged for invited friends and family only, will be asked to produce a copy of their Child Protection Policy. A copy of this document will be displayed for the attention of all.

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