

Yelling Village Hall

Safeguarding Policy

Statement of Intent

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 users at risk. Such users could include: children, young people, adults with learning difficulties or physical disability, frail, elderly people and carers.

Guiding Principles

- 1) The Care Act 2014 which defines safeguarding as protecting a child's or adult's right to live in safety, free from abuse and neglect.
- 2) The welfare of the child or adults at risk is paramount and is the responsibility of everyone. All children and adults at risk, 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 adults at risk will not be permitted or tolerated.
- 3) The person hiring the hall is responsible for ensuring this policy is followed.

Policy Statement

- 1) The Trustees must ensure that hirers for any activities for children, young people and adults at risk are only provided by fit and proper persons in accordance with the Care Act 2014. When requested, hirers must provide the Bookings Clerk a copy of their Safeguarding Policy and evidence of DBS checks.
- 2) A trustee will be appointed to be responsible for child and adults at risk protection matters. New trustees will be provided with an understanding of their responsibilities. The current appointee is named at the end of this policy.
- 3) All suspicions and allegations of abuse against a child or adult at risk will be taken seriously and dealt with speedily and appropriately through the nominated Safeguarding Trustee.
- 4) The Trustees will endeavour to keep the premises safe for use by children and adults at risk especially where use is made by young children who cannot read and the individuals with physical disabilities.
- 5) Contractors engaged to carry out work at the premises must not be allowed unsupervised access to children or adults at risk. Appropriate supervision or change of schedule will be arranged.
- 6) If the premises might be used by more than one hirer, the attention of the hirers will be drawn to the need for a high level of supervision.
- 7) The Booking Clerk will ensure that hirers are made aware of their obligations under the Licensing Act to ensure that alcohol is not sold to those under the age of 18 years.
- 8) This policy and procedures will be reviewed annually and updated as appropriate.

The Trustee currently responsible for overseeing Protection and Safeguarding Policies is Will Sleigh

Revised by
Yelling Village Hall Management Committee
May 2023.

Yelling Village Hall

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**:

- 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.
- Policy:** All suspicions or allegations of abuse against a child will be taken seriously and dealt with speedily and appropriately.

Procedure: The Trustee responsible for Safeguarding matters is also 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.
- 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.
- Policy:** The policies and procedures will be regularly reviewed.

Procedure: An annual review will take place following the AGM to allow for any required update of policies and or procedures. New trustees and volunteers will be provided with an understanding of their responsibilities in matters of child protection.
- Policy:** Members of the local community who use the facilities provided should be aware of the Child Protection policies as adopted by the Management Committee.

Procedure: All hirers who wish to use the hall for activities which include children, 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.

Revised by
Yelling Village Hall Management Committee
May 2023.