



## The Hindmarsh Hall

### Safeguarding Policy

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#### **1.0 Introduction and Purpose**

1.1 The welfare of children and vulnerable adults is paramount and is the responsibility of everyone.

1.2 The purpose of this document is to define the policy and procedures that apply to use of the Hindmarsh Hall.

#### **2.0 Definition of Terms Used**

2.1 CHILD - A child is anyone under the age of 18.

2.2 ADULT AT RISK - The Law Commission Report into Adult Social Care (2011) defined an Adult at Risk as a person who:

must appear to have health or social care needs, including carers (irrespective of whether those needs are being met by services)

must appear to be at risk of harm.

must appear to be unable to safeguard themselves from harm as a direct result of their health or social care needs.

2.3 SAFEGUARDING - Safeguarding is defined in 'Working Together to Safeguard Children' (2013) as:

protecting children from maltreatment

preventing impairment of children's health and development

ensuring that children grow up in circumstances consistent with the provision of safe and effective care and

taking action to enable all children to have the best outcomes

2.4 ABUSE OF A CHILD - The NSPCC have identified specific forms of abuse which may be perpetrated against a child. These are defined as:

Bullying

Emotional abuse

Physical abuse

Child trafficking

Neglect

Sexual abuse

2.5 ABUSE OF AN ADULT - The Law Commission's Report into Adult Social Care defines harm as including but not limited to:

- ill treatment (including sexual abuse, exploitation and forms of ill treatment which are not physical)
- the impairment of health (physical or mental) or development (physical, intellectual, emotional, social or behavioural)
- self-harm and neglect
- unlawful conduct which adversely affects property, rights or interests (for example, financial abuse).

### **3.0 Principles of our Policy**

3.1 Children and vulnerable adults (adults at risk) have a right to use the Hindmarsh Hall protected and free from abuse of any kind regardless of gender, ethnicity, disability, sexuality or beliefs.

3.2 The Trustees of the Hindmarsh Hall have a duty to safeguard all children and vulnerable adults who use their facilities.

3.3 This policy applies to all Trustees and all users of the Hindmarsh Hall.

3.4 This policy will be reviewed and approved annually and whenever there is a change in the laws or published guidelines.

3.5 This policy is available for anyone to inspect on the Hindmarsh Hall web site or by request from the Secretary.

3.6 Anyone with a conviction for a sexual offence against a child or vulnerable adult, whenever it was committed, is not considered suitable as a Trustee.

3.7 All concerns and allegations of abuse will be taken seriously by Trustees and responded to appropriately - this may require a referral to social services and, in emergencies, the police

## **4.0 Responsibilities**

4.1 The Trustee with specific responsibility for safeguarding (Delegated Lead) is Maureen Bickerdike. The Deputy is Graeme Popay.

4.2 All users of the Hindmarsh Hall are responsible for reporting suspicions of abuse using the contact details below.

4.3 The Delegated Lead should be advised of any safeguarding incidents that occur in the Hindmarsh Hall so that the appropriate preventive action can be taken. Confidentiality will be observed but information sharing will be necessary if a child or adult is deemed to be at risk of harm.

## **5.0 Reporting Suspicions of Abuse**

Trustee lead for safeguarding and child protection:

Name Maureen Bickerdike

Phone/email: 01665 830516 maureen.bickerdike@gmail.com

Deputy Graeme Popay gpopay@gmail.com

**Onecall 01670 536 400**

**NSPCC Helpline 0808 800 5000**

## **6.0 DBS Checks**

6.1 Anyone who is involved in regulated activity (as defined by law) with children or vulnerable adults requires a DBS check.

6.2 Trustees are not involved in regulated activity as part of their responsibilities and do not require checks.

6.3 Certain hirers who provide services to children will be included in the definition of regulated activity. They will be required to provide a copy of their Safeguarding Policy and proof of DBS clearance when their letting is negotiated or renewed.

## 7.0 Lettings

7.1 Hirers will be made aware that no children may be admitted to films when they are below the age classification for the film on show.

7.2 No gambling, apart from raffles and tombolas, or entertainment of an adult or sexual nature is permitted on the premises.

7.3 Organisations hiring the hall for activities for children/vulnerable adults will be asked to show their Safeguarding Policy before the first booking commences. Individuals hiring the hall for activities for children/vulnerable adults will be made aware of the Hindmarsh Hall's Safeguarding Policy.

7.4 In addition, any individual or group hiring the hall to provide a facility for children (playgroups, youth clubs for example) will be required to show their DBS clearance to the Lettings Secretary and the disclosure number will be recorded. Any delegation of that hirer to other people to supervise the children is the responsibility of the hirer and the Lettings Secretary will not vet these delegates for DBS clearance.

## 8.0 Extremism and the Prevent Duty

8.1 Trustees will not permit the facilities to be used for any extremist activity.

(The UK government currently defines extremism as, '**vocal or active opposition to fundamental British values**, including democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty and mutual respect and tolerance of different faiths and beliefs'.)

**HM Government (2015) The Prevent Duty Guidance for England and Wales**

**9.0 Other Safeguarding Issues** 9.1 Below are some of the other areas that we need to be alert to in terms of safeguarding the more vulnerable in our community:

- Online sexual exploitation of children
- County lines (drug trafficking using people in rural areas)
- Child trafficking
- Female genital mutilation
- Forced marriage

## 10.0 Other Relevant Policies

Health & Safety      Equality & Diversity

## 11.0 Approval

We are committed to reviewing our policy and good practice annually.

This policy was approved on 2nd May 2023

Date for next review: May 2024