



## Safeguarding Policy

Responsibility for safeguarding rests with the hirer (see standard booking conditions).

Children and young people are defined as persons aged under 18 years old. For the purposes of this policy, an adult at risk refers to someone over 18 years old who is experiencing or is at risk of abuse or neglect as a result of their care and needs and is unable to protect themselves against the abuse or neglect or the risk of it.

Medbourne Village Hall Committee does not organise or hold events where children / young people at risk or adults at risk would attend without the presence of a parent or guardian. However, Trustees also have a duty of care and are committed to the protection and safety of everyone, including children / young people at risk and adults at risk.

Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility. This policy is aimed at Trustees, volunteers, visitors, contractors and all those holding and/or attending any activity or event at Medbourne Village Hall. All reasonable action must be taken to protect children / young people at risk and adults at risk.

Committee members will have signed the Trustee Eligibility/Declaration form. Medbourne Village Hall Committee has a zero-tolerance approach to abuse and is committed to responding immediately and effectively if concerns are raised. Members of the committee should be familiar with safeguarding principles, and promote a culture that enables safeguarding issues to be addressed. Members of the committee, helpers or other volunteers will not have unsupervised access to children or adults at risk.

A member of the committee will be responsible for child and adult at risk safeguarding matters and will report concerns that arise, as a matter of urgency, to the relevant safeguarding agency - Leicestershire & Rutland Children Partnership and Safeguarding Adults Board ([Irsb.org.uk](http://Irsb.org.uk)).

The named person is **Chloe Shuttlewood**.

All suspicions or allegations of abuse against a child or adult at risk will be taken seriously and dealt with speedily and appropriately. The appointed person will know who to contact and where to go for support and advice in relation to any concerns. An allegation could relate to a person who may have committed a criminal offence or behaved in a way that indicates they may pose a risk of harm to a child or adult at risk.

The Hall committee will ensure that all hirers of the hall have signed a hiring agreement. This will require all hirers who wish to use the hall for activities which may include children and adults at risk - other than for hire for private parties arranged for invited friends and family - to have a copy of their Safeguarding Policy available on request and where necessary to show evidence that relevant checks have been carried out

This policy will be reviewed annually.

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