



## **Safeguarding Policy**

Responsibility for safeguarding rests with the hirer ( see standard booking conditions), however, Trustees also have a duty of care and are committed to the protection and safety of everyone who enters the premises including children, young people and adults at risk.

Medbourne Village Hall Committee does not normally organise or hold events where children, young people or adults at risk would attend without the presence of a parent or guardian.

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.

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 and adults at risk of abuse.

All 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 effectively if concerns are raised. Members of the committee should be familiar with safeguarding responsibilities and undertake appropriate training to ensure that the principles are understood; also to 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 unless appropriately vetted.

A member of the committee will be appointed to be responsible for child and adult at risk safeguarding matters. This person will have responsibility for reporting 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 Shutlewood

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 through the Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS).

This policy will be reviewed annually.