

STOCKLAND VICTORY HALL

SAFEGUARDING POLICY

1. Introduction

- 1.1 Stockland Victory Hall Management Committee and volunteers have a duty to safeguard vulnerable users of the Hall and those who may come into contact with vulnerable users. Vulnerable users may include: children, young people, adults with learning difficulties or physical disability, frail, elderly people and carers.
- 1.2 This policy is in place to protect all vulnerable persons regardless of age, gender, ethnicity, disability, sexuality or religion.

2. Principles

- 2.1 The welfare of the child or vulnerable adult is the responsibility of everyone. All children and vulnerable adults, have the right to protection from abuse, whether physical, verbal, sexual, financial, bullying, exclusion or neglect.

3. Policy Statement

- 3.1 No member of the Hall Committee or Volunteers will have unsupervised access to children or vulnerable adults unless they have been through a safe recruitment procedure and introductory Child Protection or Vulnerable Adults Protection training.
- 3.2 All suspicions or allegations of abuse against a vulnerable adult or child will be taken seriously and responded to promptly and appropriately.
- 3.3 The Management Committee must respond to any concerns they have or are reported to them regarding the physical, sexual, emotional or psychological safety of a vulnerable person.
- 3.4 There will be a nominated and named Vulnerable Users Representative (VUR) to whom any suspicions or concerns should be reported. This person is:

Mr Brian Gosden

- 3.5 The Management Committee will endeavour to keep the premises safe for use by children and vulnerable adults at all times. The committee recognises that a higher standard of safety is required where the hall is used by children or adults who cannot read safety notices this maybe due to their age or physical disability.
- 3.6 Any organisation or individuals hiring the hall shall be made aware of their safeguarding responsibilities. Where Ofsted Registration is required i.e. a school or childcare organisation they should show their registration and Safeguarding Policy.
- 3.7 Safe recruitment processes should be used to appoint staff or volunteers who will be working with children or vulnerable adults in any kind of activity.

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- 3.8 The Committee will ensure that hirers are made aware of their obligations under the Licensing Act 2003 to ensure that alcohol is not sold to those under the age of 18.
- 3.9. The Committee will ensure that hirers are aware that no children may be admitted to films when they are below the age classification for the film or show.
- 3.10 No entertainment of an adult or sexual nature shall be permitted on the premises.
- 3.11 These policies and procedures will be reviewed annually by the management committee and updated as appropriate in the interim periods.
- 3.12 The VUR will have responsibility for reporting concerns and complaints to the local authority child protection and vulnerable adult lead agency. The VUR may consider it appropriate to initially have a confidential discussion with others in order to clear up any misunderstandings or to corroborate and support any suspicions before reporting a concern to the lead agency. However reporting a suspicious incident should not be delayed where this is likely pose a risk to a child or vulnerable adult.

The VUR should:

- Know who to contact at the local authority
- Know who to contact in Social Services for advice and referrals
- Know about help lines and other sources of help for children and young people and vulnerable adults
- Ensure that there is an environment in which people have the opportunity to raise any child protection or other safeguarding concerns

4. Stockland and Yarcombe Pre-School

- 4.1 The Stockland and Yarcombe Pre-school operates from within the Victory Hall where there are areas dedicated to the pre-school and others that are common to all users. When the pre-school is in session the hall will ordinarily not be used for any other activity.
- 4.2 Where there is a need for any person not being a member of pre-school staff to undertake an activity within the hall e.g. maintenance they must first report their presence to the pre-school manager or another member of staff. The pre-school operates within its own safeguarding policy and this will be reviewed by the management committee to ensure the pre-school policy and the hall policy operate in parallel with each other.

5. Stockland Youth Club

- 5.1 The Stockland Youth Club meets at the Victory Hall and caters for children aged 7 to 13 years.
- 5.2 The youth club will have exclusive access to the hall during club sessions.

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- 5.3 The club must be supervised by a minimum of one male and one female adult assistant. Either the club Leader or Deputy Leader will be present during each session.
- 5.4 All adult assistants will receive safeguarding and first aid training and must complete and pass a Disclosure and Barring Service check (DBS) before they can supervise the youth club.
- 5.5 A register will be maintained of the children attending the youth club and the assistants in charge at each session.
- 5.6 Visitors to the youth club must report to the Leader or Deputy Leader and be accompanied at all times whilst the club is in session.
- 5.7 Mobile phones cannot be used within the hall whilst the club is in session and children are on the premises.
- 5.8 All the provisions in the Stockland Victory Hall Safeguarding Policy apply to the youth club.
- 5.9 Stockland Victory Hall Committee will provide the governance of the youth club and either the Leader or Deputy Leader of the youth club will attend the bi-monthly committee meetings.

6. Safeguarding File

- 5.1 The Victory Hall Safeguarding File will be held by the Secretary and contain the Safeguarding Policy, the Safeguarding Training Log, records of Disclosure and Baring Service(DBS) checks, the Stockland and Yarcombe Pre-School Safeguarding Policy.

7. Legislation Relating to this Policy

Human Rights Act 1998
Freedom of Information Act 2000
Children Act 1989
Children Act 2004
Education Act 1996
Education Act 2002
Safeguarding and Vulnerable Groups Act 2006
Protection of Freedom Act 2012

Signed

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Date

Review Date

Appendix 1

Useful Contacts:

Devon Safeguarding Children Board www.devonsafeguarding.org

South West Child protection procedures www.swcpp.org.uk

Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) 0345 155 1071
mashsecure@devon.gcsx.uk

MASH Consultation Line 01392 388361/2

Devon Safeguarding Child Board (DSCB) 01392 386067

Children and Young Persons Services (CYPS) out of hours emergency line 0845 605
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Devon and Cornwall Police 101 (in an emergency 999)