



Bishop Wilton Village Hall and Playing Fields Association
Worsendale Road, Bishop Wilton, East Yorkshire, YO42 1ST
Registered Charity No. 1050047

Safeguarding Policy

(Reviewed 28th February 2024)

Policy Statement:

Bishop Wilton Village Hall & P.F.A. (The Hall) recognises that it has a statutory and moral duty to ensure that it safeguards and promotes the welfare of young people during their time spent at the Village Hall and facilities.

A child is any person under the age of eighteen.

A **vulnerable adult** is a person aged eighteen years or over who is, or may be, in need of community care services by reason of mental or another disability, age or illness and who is or may be unable to take care of him or herself, or unable to protect him or herself against significant harm or exploitation.

NO member of the trustees, staff, helpers, or other volunteers will have unsupervised access to children unless appropriately vetted.

Definitions:

Abuse

Abuse and neglect are forms of maltreatment of a child or vulnerable adult. Somebody may abuse a child or vulnerable adult by inflicting harm, or by failing to act to prevent harm. They may be abused in a family or in an institutional or community setting, by those known to them or, more rarely, by a stranger for example, via the internet. They may be abused by an adult or adults, another child/ren, or in some instances abuse may be to an adult recognised as vulnerable by a child or children.

- A violation of an individual's human and civil rights by any other person.
- May consist of a single act or repeated acts. It may be physical, verbal, or psychological, it may be an act of neglect or an omission to act, or it may occur when a vulnerable person is persuaded to enter into financial or sexual transactions to which he or she has not consented or cannot consent.
- Abuse can occur in any relationship and may result in significant harm to, or exploitation of the person subject to it.

The Village Hall recognises that children, young people, and vulnerable adults may suffer abuse in different ways:

- **Physical:** Any purposeful acts of violence causing injury.
- **Sexual:** The exploitation of authority or power to involve a child in sexual gratification.
- **Emotional:** Emotional ill-treatment or rejection affecting emotional or behavioural development.
- **Neglect:** The persistent failure to meet a child's basic physical and/or psychological needs and protect a child from physical and emotional harm or danger. This is likely to result in the serious impairment of the child's health or development and may occur by failing to provide access to adequate food, health care, education, and/or supervision (including the use of inadequate caregivers).

Our guiding principles are:

- The welfare of the child is paramount.



- **NO** child or group of children must be treated any less favourably than others in being able to access services which meet their needs.
- All children, without exception, have the right to protection from abuse regardless of gender, ethnicity, disability, sexuality, or beliefs.
- The policy is reviewed, approved, and endorsed by the board of trustees as needed, as a minimum this will be annually assessed.
- This policy applies to all trustees, staff, and volunteers.
children and parents are informed of the policy and procedures as appropriate.
- **ALL** concerns, and allegations of abuse will be taken seriously by trustees, staff and volunteers and responded to appropriately - this may require a referral to children's social care services, the independent Local Authority Designated Officer (LADO) for allegations against staff, trustees, and other volunteers, and in emergencies, the police.

The Village Hall will respond to suspicions or allegations of abuse by:

- Staff/volunteers will offer support and guidance to the young person and ensure their current safety.
- Staff/volunteers will record incidents and make the necessary agencies aware of any potential for concern.
- If unsure about the level of risk or appropriate support, staff/volunteers can seek advice or need to make a referral, please call:

EHASH – Wolds and Dale – 01482 395500.

Or if your concern is out of hours or at the weekend you can call the **EHASH out of hours on 01377 241273.**

Should the child be in immediate danger call the Police on 999

Or Police non-emergency: **Tel - 101**

Following any disclosure or concern for a **young person or vulnerable adult in immediate danger**, staff/volunteers will follow the procedure as attached to this policy.

Safeguarding Contact for Hall: Sara Dace-Hughes 07779 337631

The Village Hall will maintain records and respect confidentiality:

- Staff or volunteers will inform the relevant external agencies of any issues for concern and pass them a written record of any incidents or disclosures, to be kept securely by them.

Members of the public who use our facilities will be made aware of our **Safeguarding Policy**. All hirers who wish to use the hall for activities which include children and vulnerable adults, 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.

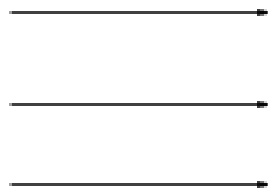
Link to Charity Commission Safeguarding Policy

www.gov.uk/government/publications/safeguarding-children-and-young-people.



Safeguarding Procedure

Responding to a disclosure or allegation or if you witness abuse.



Do not make promises and let the person know that you will need to pass the information on

Limit what questions to “What, Who, When and Where”

Do not ask leading questions.

Assist to ensure the victim is safe from immediate harm.



If necessary, seek medical attention.

Ensure that there is no contact with the alleged abuser.

Preserve evidence.



Do not allow any access to a place where the abuse may have occurred.

Do not confront the alleged perpetrator.

Record the Incident



Record what is said to you using the victims’ own words and what you see.

Report and follow the instructions of the East Riding Safeguarding Helpline



If unsure about the level of risk or appropriate support, staff/volunteers can seek advice by calling The East Riding Safeguarding Helpline: 01482 395500