

SHEDFIELD READING AND RECREATION ROOMS

(Also known as Shedfield Village Hall)

CHILD AND VULNERABLE ADULTS SAFEGUARDING POLICY

This statement of policy and procedures applies to all people associated with the Shedfield Reading and Recreation Rooms and its use.

BACKGROUND

Safeguarding is about embedding practices throughout the organisation to ensure the protection of children and vulnerable adults wherever possible.

All children and vulnerable adults regardless of gender, ethnicity, disability, sexuality, religion or faith have the right to protection from abuse whether physical, verbal, sexual, bullying, exclusion or neglect.

A vulnerable adult is described as a person aged 18 years or over, who is in receipt of or may be in need of community care services by reason of mental or other 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.

PURPOSE

This policy seeks to ensure that the Shedfield Reading and Recreation Rooms Management Committee undertakes its responsibilities with regard to protection of children and vulnerable adults and will respond to concerns appropriately

POLICY

No member of the Trustees, staff, outside contractors, hirers or volunteers will have unsupervised access to children or vulnerable adults unless in possession of appropriate clearance.

Hirers are to be made aware of their obligations under the Licensing Act 2003 to ensure that alcohol is not sold to those under the age of 18 and that no children may be admitted to films when they are below the age classification for the film or show.

The Management Committee shall report concerns or allegations against its Trustees, staff, outside contractors, hirers or volunteers to the appropriate authorities.

PROCEDURES

Promulgation

A copy of this policy is available on the Shedfield Reading Room website and is displayed for the attention of all on the Hall notice board.

Hiring

Acceptance of this safeguarding policy is part of the agreed contract taken out on hiring the Shedfield Reading and Recreation Rooms.

Any user hiring the facilities to provide a regular activity for children or vulnerable adults will be required to show their children and vulnerable adults safeguarding policy and provide assurance that eligible individuals have a valid Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) certificate.

Reporting

All suspicions or allegations of abuse against a child or vulnerable adult are to be reported to the appropriate authorities. All such suspicions or allegations brought to the attention of the Management Committee in the first instance will be reported by the Chairman to the appropriate authorities.

REVIEW

This policy will be reviewed on an annual basis at the Annual General Meeting and/or when changes occur in National Legislation or Procedures. New Management Committee members will be provided with an understanding of their responsibilities in line with this policy.