



Safeguarding Policy for Subscription Rooms

Nailsworth

1. Purpose of Policy

Safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and adults at risk from abuse or neglect

This policy defines how Nailsworth Subscription Rooms, which is managed by a committee of trustees for the charity known as Nailsworth Youth and Community Enterprise, operates to safeguard children, young people, and adults at risk of abuse or neglect

We have a duty of care and are committed to the protection and safety of everyone who enters our premises including children, young people and adults at risk involved as visitors and/or as participants in all activities and events. We also have a duty to safeguard and support our trustees, volunteers and staff.

2. Definitions

Children and young people are defined as those aged under 18 years old. This policy will apply to all staff, contractors and volunteers and will be used to support their work.

Safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children is defined as:

- protecting children from maltreatment
- preventing impairment of children's health and development
- ensuring that children grow up in circumstances consistent with the provision of safe and effective care
- taking action to enable all children to have the best outcomes.

Adult at risk of abuse or neglect

For the purposes of this policy, adult at risk refers to someone over 18 years old who according to Section 42 of the Care Act 2014:

- has care and support needs
- is experiencing, or at risk of, abuse or neglect
- as a result of their care and support needs is unable to protect himself or herself against the abuse or neglect or the risk of it.

If someone has care and support needs but is not currently receiving care or support from a health or care service, they may still be an adult at risk.

Persons affected

- All trustees, volunteers and staff
- All those attending any activity or service that is being delivered from the Subscription Rooms charity property
- All visitors and contractors

3. Policy principles

There can be no excuses for not taking all reasonable action to prevent children and adults at risk from abuse or neglect. All citizens of the United Kingdom have their rights enshrined within the Human Rights Act, 1998. People who are eligible to receive health and community care services may be additionally vulnerable to the violation of these rights by reason of disability, impairment, age or illness.

- Nailsworth Youth and Community Enterprise charity has a zero-tolerance approach to abuse.
- Nailsworth Youth and Community Enterprise charity recognises that under the Care Act 2014, it has a duty for the care and protection of adults who are at risk of abuse. It also recognises its responsibilities for the safety and care of children under the Children Act 1989 and 2004.
- Nailsworth Youth and Community Enterprise charity is committed to promoting wellbeing, harm prevention and to responding effectively if concerns are raised.
- Nailsworth Youth and Community Enterprise charity is aware of the work of the Gloucestershire Safeguarding Children Partnership (GSCP) and the Gloucestershire Safeguarding Adults Board (GSAB) and other support organisations on the development and implementation of procedures for the protection of children and adults at risk. The policy is about stopping abuse where it is happening and preventing abuse where there is a risk that it may occur.
- Nailsworth Youth and Community Enterprise charity is committed to the following principles:
 - The welfare of the child, young person or adult at risk is paramount
 - All children, young people and adults have the right to protection from abuse
 - Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility; for services to be effective each professional and organisation should play their full part; and
 - All suspicions and allegations of abuse must be properly reported to the relevant internal and external authorities and dealt with swiftly and appropriately.

4. Procedures

- a. All members of the committee will sign the Declaration of Acceptance of Office for trustees which includes a declaration that they have no convictions in relation to abuse.
- b. All members of the committee will familiarise themselves with safeguarding responsibilities, undertake training where appropriate on safeguarding issues including whistle-blowing where it is available and offered by their local Safeguarding Board/ Partnership or other local support organisation and ensure that they understand the principles set out in the policy at Section 3 above.
- c. All members of the committee will work together to promote a culture that enables issues about safeguarding and promoting welfare to be addressed.
- d. All members of the committee, helpers or volunteers will not have unsupervised access to children or adults at risk unless appropriately vetted.
- e. The members of the committee will ensure that all hirers of rooms at the Subscription Rooms have signed a hiring agreement. This will require all hirers who wish to use rooms for activities which include children or adults at risk, **other than for hire for private parties arranged for friends and family**, to either produce a copy of their Safeguarding Policy and evidence that they have carried out relevant checks through the Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) when requested to do so or, confirm that they have understood and will adhere to the Subscription Rooms' principles and procedures with regard to safeguarding. **It is important to emphasise that although the members of the committee will endeavour to create the right environment for safe working practices, the primary responsibility for the safeguarding of children or adults at risk in all activities at the Subscription Rooms will rest with the organisers of those activities.**
- f. The Subscription Rooms will follow safer recruitment practices.

- g. 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.
- h. The named responsible person is **Tracy Shipp** until 15th November 2023 (the date of the next Annual General Meeting) when the position will be reviewed. She may be contacted through the Subscription Room's administrator on telephone number 07971737626
- i. 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 responsible person will know who to contact and where to go for support and advice in relation to an allegation, a concern about the quality of care or practice or a complaint. An allegation may relate to a person who works with children or adults at risk who has:
- Behaved in a way that has harmed a child or adult at risk or may have harmed a child or adult at risk;
 - Possibly committed a criminal offence against, or related to, a child or adult at risk; or
 - Behaved towards a child or adult at risk in a way that indicates they may pose a risk of harm to children or adults at risk;
- j. The committee will carry out an annual review of this policy in March, commencing 2024.

Authors: Les Haines, Trustee and Charity Secretary
and
Tracy Shipp, Trustee and Safeguarding Lead

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