

Child and Vulnerable Adult Safeguarding Policy

Principles

All Coxwold Village Hall Committee members and volunteers have a duty to safeguard vulnerable users of the hall and its premises. We also have a duty to safeguard our own members and volunteers.

The welfare of the child or vulnerable adult is paramount and is the responsibility of everyone. All children and vulnerable adults, without exception, have the right to protection from abuse, whether physical, verbal, sexual, bullying, exclusion or neglect. Bullying, physical violence, sexism and racism towards children will not be permitted or tolerated.

Policy and procedure

1. Coxwold Village Hall is committed to providing a safe environment for all users.
2. All children attending public events at the hall shall be accompanied by a parent or adult guardian.
3. No trustee, helper or other volunteer will have unsupervised access to children unless appropriately vetted.
4. All trustees, helpers and volunteers need to be aware of this policy, child protection and vulnerable adult issues and the relevant vetting procedures.
5. All hirers who wish to use the hall for activities which include children and vulnerable adults (other than hire for private parties arranged for invited friends and family only), must, when requested, produce a copy of their Safeguarding Policy. A copy of this document will be provided with the Hire Agreement.
6. All suspicions or allegations of abuse against a child will be taken seriously and dealt with speedily and appropriately.
7. The current Secretary to the CPFA (see list of committee members at: www.coxwoldvillage.org) acts as the Village Hall vulnerable users representative to whom any suspicions or concerns about activities within the hall or its grounds should be reported.
8. New trustees and volunteers will be provided with an understanding of their responsibilities in matters of child protection. Further information for all trustees, committee members, volunteers and hirers is available at: [Village Halls Information Sheet 5 - Safeguarding - ACRE](#)
9. These policies and procedures will be reviewed annually and updated as appropriate in the interim periods.