

Safeguarding Policy Statement of Chalfont St Peter Community Centre (CSPCC)

1. Purpose

This policy statement defines how CSPCC intends to safeguard children, young people and adults at risk of abuse or neglect.

CSPCC recognises its duty of care and is committed to ensuring the safety and wellbeing of all individuals who uses its premises, including visitors, participants in activities and events, trustees, volunteers and staff.

2. Definitions

Children and young people are those persons: Anyone under the age of 18.

Safeguarding of children includes protecting children from maltreatment

Adults at risk of abuse or neglect are someone over 18 years old who.

- has care and support needs
- is experiencing, or is at risk of, abuse or neglect
- is unable to protect themselves due to those needs (Care Act 2014, paragraph 14.2)

This may apply even if the person is not currently receiving formal care or support services.

3. Persons affected

- All CSPCC trustees, volunteers, and staff
- All users of CSPCC premises, whether activities are run by CSPCC or external organisations.
- All visitors and contractors

4. Policy principles

CSPCC recognises the rights of all individuals under the Human Rights Act 1998 and acknowledges additional vulnerabilities arising from age, disability, impairment, or illness The Centre operates in line with:

- The Care Act 2014 (adults at risk)
- The Children Act 1989 and 2004 (children and young people)

CSPCC adopts a zero-tolerance approach to abuse in any form, including exploitation, radicalisation, or mistreatment.

CSPCC recognises the rights of all individuals under the Human Rights Act 1998 and acknowledges additional vulnerabilities arising from age, disability, impairment, or illness.

CSPCC is committed to:

- Promoting wellbeing and preventing harm
- Responding promptly and effectively to all safeguarding concerns
- Ensuring all concerns, suspicions, or allegations are reported and addressed appropriately

Key principles:

- The welfare of the child or adult at risk is paramount
- Everyone has the right to protection from abuse
- All concerns will be taken seriously and acted upon promptly

5. Procedures

- All trustees, staff and volunteers will have unsupervised access to children or adults at risk unless they have been appropriately vetted.
- No staff member or volunteer will have unsupervised access to children or adults at risk unless they have been appropriately vetted.
- CSPCC will follow safe recruitment practices, including appropriate DBS
- The lead designated Safeguarding Officer is Jack McCarthy, responsible for safeguarding matters relating to children and adults at risk, including liaison with external agencies supported by the Deputy designated Safeguarding lead is Nikki
- All allegations or suspicions of abuse will be treated seriously and handled promptly. This includes situations where a person may have:
 - caused or may have caused harm to a child or adult at risk
 - committed a criminal offence against a child or adult at risk
 - behaved in a way that indicates a risk of harm
- All hirers must sign a hiring agreement. Where activities involve children or adults at risk (other than private family events), hirers must provide a safeguarding policy and confirm appropriate DBS checks are in place where applicable.
- This policy will be reviewed annually, or sooner if there is a change in activity, staffing, or relevant legislation.

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