

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 it has a duty of care and is committed to the protection and safety of everyone who enters its premises, in particular children, young people and adults at risk involved as visitors and/or as participants in activities and events. CSPCC also has a duty to safeguard and support its trustees, volunteers, and staff.

2. Definitions

Children and young people are those persons aged under 18 years old.

Safeguarding of children is:

- protecting children from maltreatment

Adults at risk of abuse or neglect are someone over 18 years old who, according to paragraph 14.2 of the Care Act 2014:

- has care and support needs
- is experiencing, or is at risk of, abuse or neglect
- as a result of their care and support needs is unable to protect themselves 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.

3. Persons affected

- All CSPCC trustees, volunteers, and staff
- All those attending any activity or service that is being delivered from the CSPCC premises regardless of whether the activity is delivered directly by CSPCC or others.
- All visitors and contractors

4. Policy principles

There can be no excuses for not taking all reasonable action to protect adults at risk of abuse, exploitation, radicalisation, and mistreatment. 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.

CSPCC has a zero-tolerance approach to abuse.

CSPCC recognises that under the Care Act 2014, it has a duty for the care and protection of adults who are at risk. It also recognises its responsibilities for the safety and care of children under the Children Act 1989 and 2004.

CSPCC is committed to promoting wellbeing, harm prevention and to responding effectively if concerns are raised.

CSPCC is implementing this policy to stop abuse where it is happening and preventing abuse where there is a risk that it may occur.

CSPCC 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 at risk have the right to protection from abuse
- All suspicions and allegations of abuse will be promptly and properly reported to the relevant internal and external authorities and dealt with swiftly and appropriately

5. Procedures

- A. All members of the committee will work together to promote a culture that enables issues about safeguarding and promoting welfare to be addressed.
- B. CSPCC will not allow staff to have unsupervised access to children or adults at risk unless appropriately vetted.
- C. CSPCC will follow safe recruitment practices.
- D. CSPCC have appointed a safeguarding lead Jack McCarthy to be responsible for child and adult at risk safeguarding matters. This person will have appropriate training and has responsibility for information sharing with the relevant safeguarding agency.
- E. All suspicions or allegations of abuse against a child or adult at risk will be taken seriously and dealt with speedily and appropriately. An allegation may relate to a person who works with children or adult 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 children or adult at risk in a way that indicates they may pose a risk of harm to children.
- F. CSPCC will ensure that all hirers have signed a hiring agreement. This will require all hirers who provide activities that include children and adults at risk, other than for hire for private parties arranged for invited friends and family, to produce a copy of their Safeguarding Policy. Hirers must be reminded that relevant checks through the Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) may be necessary for their particular activity.
- G. The committee will review this policy every 2 years, or when there is a change of activity or a change of staffing – whichever occurs first.
- H. Safeguarding lead for **CSPCC** - Name: Jack McCarthy – contact 07792952798 & email missjack@live.com.

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To be reviewed: