

Safeguarding: See it, recognise it, report it

Village Halls & Community Spaces



Safeguarding is *everyone's* responsibility



Programme for the session

The aim of this session is:

- To reinforce that safeguarding is everyone's responsibility.
- To provide basic awareness of adult and children safeguarding.
- To provide tools to support effective safeguarding practice.

By the end of the session you should:

- See it: Understand what safeguarding means.
- Recognise it: Be able to recognise some of the signs and types of abuse and respond appropriately.
- Report it: Know how to be able to report concerns.



Keeping ourselves and others safer

‘Best practice in safeguarding means committing to both a legal and moral responsibility to all paid staff, volunteers and visitors.

You can demonstrate this commitment to safeguarding by accepting your responsibilities.

You can also strive to embed safeguarding within the culture of your organisation’.

Anne Craft Trust



What is safeguarding? Definitions

Safeguarding is the action that is taken to promote the welfare of children and adults at risk and protect them from harm.

Children

Safeguarding means:

- protecting children from abuse and maltreatment
- preventing harm to children's health or development
- ensuring children grow up with the provision of safe and effective care
- taking action to enable all children and young people to have the best outcomes



Adults

Protecting an adult's right to live in safety, free from abuse and neglect.

It is about people and organisations working together to prevent and stop both the risks and experience of abuse or neglect, while at the same time making sure that the adult's wellbeing is promoted including, where appropriate, having regard to their views, wishes, feelings and beliefs in deciding on any action. ...



NSPCC

The Care Act 2014

“Safeguarding is everyone’s responsibility”.





Definitions: A child is...

Any person below the age of 18

The United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child
(1989)

In the UK this means 18 irrespective of
cultural or religious background, ethnicity or
country of origin





Definition: an Adult at risk of harm?

The Safeguarding duties set out in the Care Act 2014 apply to an adult who:

- **Has needs for care and support (whether or not the local authority is meeting any of those needs); and**
- **is experiencing, or is at risk of abuse or neglect; and**
- **as a result of their care and support needs is unable to protect themselves from either the risk of, or the experience of abuse or neglect.**



Language and our thoughts matter

The Care Act 2014, makes it clear that abuse of adults *links to circumstances rather than the characteristics of the people experiencing the harm.*

Labelling groups of people as inherently ‘vulnerable’ is seen to be disempowering.





Activity: What do you see?



Language and our thoughts matter

Hannah Smith



Seen as... making their own choices and consenting to sex

Corey Junior Davies



Seen as... an offender

Daniel Pelka



(not) Seen as... 'He was invisible'

"It is very much about vulnerable teenagers and, as a society, what are our views of vulnerable teenagers? How do we perceive them? Do we see them as trouble? Do we see them as no better than they should be? All that means is that if you are a vulnerable teenager who is in significant harm it is much more difficult for you to have a voice."

Sara Rowbotham



Recognising Abuse



ACTIVITY Question. Who are at increased risk of abuse?



- **Children**
- **People dependant on others for assistance, especially with finances and personal care.**
- **People who lack the capacity to consent.**
- **People who need support with communication.**
- **People who need support with mobility.**
- **People who are isolated.**
- **People receiving care in their own homes.**
- **People that may experience discrimination (e.g. hate crime).**



TYPES OF ABUSE

- 1) Physical**
- 2) Sexual**
- 3) Emotional / Psychological**
- 4) Financial / Material***
- 5) Discriminatory Abuse***
- 6) Neglect / Acts of Omission* (self & others)**
- 7) Institutional Abuse***
- 8) Domestic Violence* (Witnessed)**
- 9) Modern Slavery***

CARE ACT 2014/CHILDREN ACT 1989/NO SECRETS ACT 2000



*Adult

Other Safeguarding Issues



Sexual Exploitation



Forced Marriage



Private Fostering



Trafficking



Honour Based Abuse



Domestic Abuse



Radicalisation



Female Genital Mutilation



Gangs and Criminal Exploitation



Grooming, e-safety, sexting



Modern Slavery



County Lines



**Mate Crime
Hate Crime**



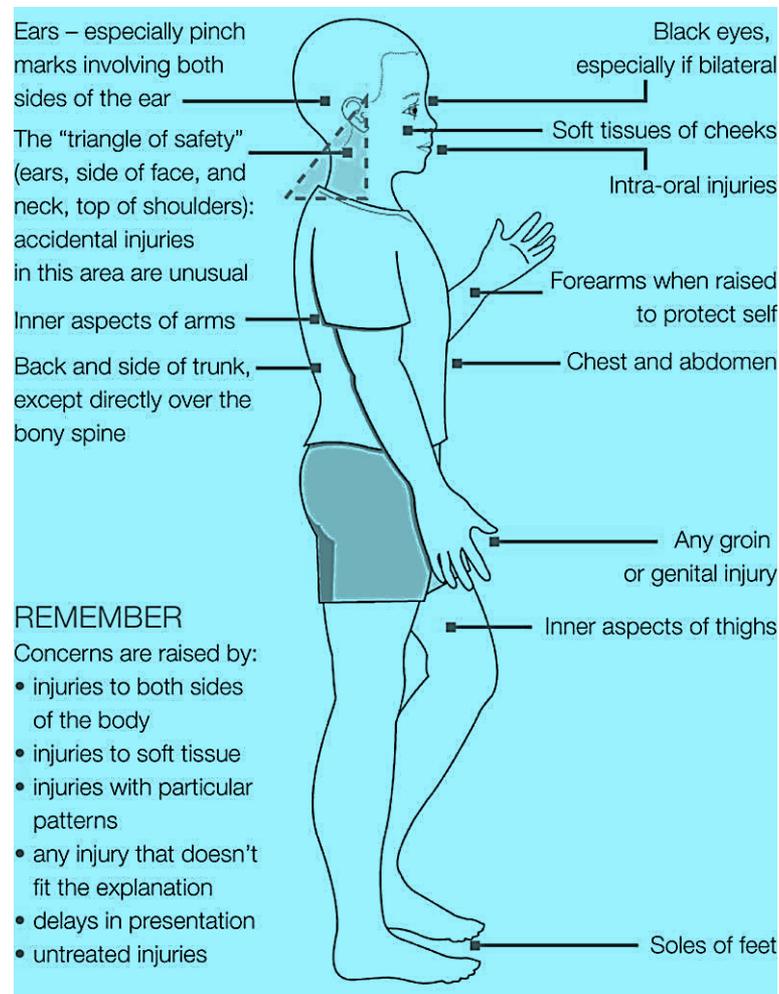
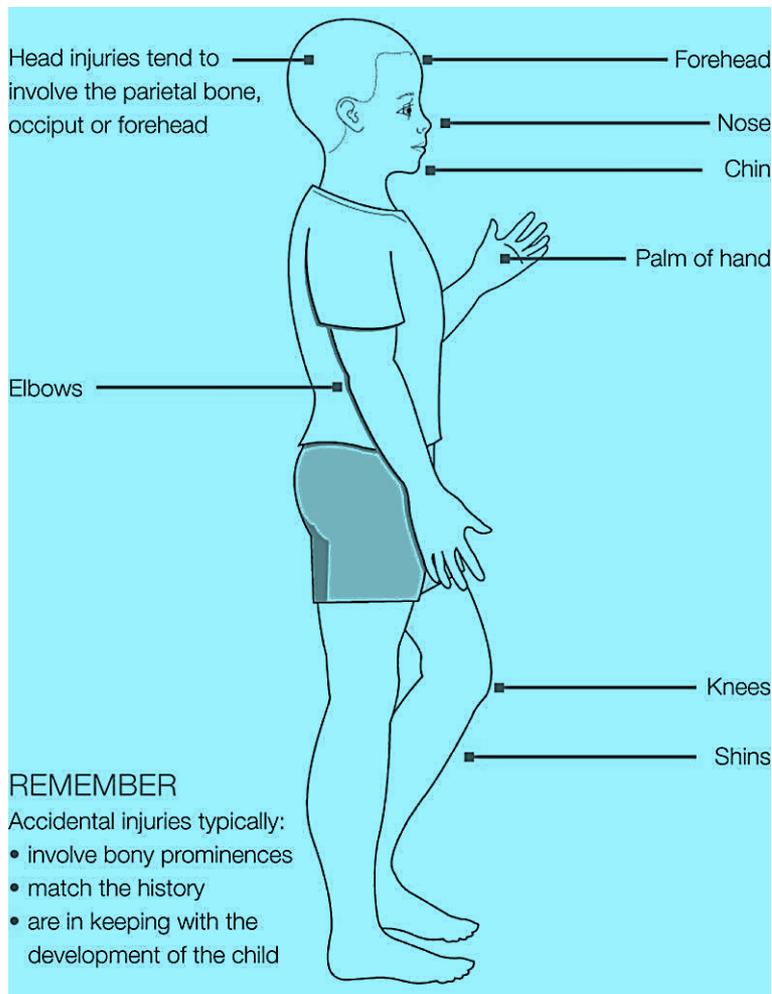
Scams



Missing Children



Recognising Signs – Physical Abuse



what might you observe or hear that would cause you concern?

Inappropriate staff behaviour

Hiding Behaviour

Signs of Distress

Running Away

Inappropriate attention seeking

Hear

Shouting & Berating by staff

Observe

Bruising

Scared & Frightened behaviour



Responding & Reporting



RESPONDING – SUSPECTED ABUSE

- Report
- Record
- Follow Procedures
- Keep them SAFE
- Confidentiality & Information Sharing
- May need ongoing Assessment and Monitoring
- Preservation of evidence



In an emergency call the Police: **999**

RESPONDING - WITNESSED

- Ensure YOUR Safety
- Ensure Client Safety
- Follow Procedures
- Provide Client with means to report
- Inform Client of Duty to Report
- Do not Retaliate or Confront
- Report and Record
- Preservation of evidence



In an emergency call the Police: **999**

RESPONDING - DISCLOSED

- Believe what you are being told
- Listen – non-judgemental
- Follow procedures
- The **safety** of the individual is paramount
- Stay calm, listen and reassure the individual
- Obtain information but do not press / lead the individual
- Avoid “No Secrets Trap”
- Do not inform or confront alleged perpetrator
- Make notes
- **Report immediately**

In an **emergency** call the Police: **999**



RECORDING

Include:

- Date, time and setting of allegation, suspicion or witnessed event & Body Map
- Anyone else involved or present
- Use the individual's own words
- Facts only – no opinions
- Date and sign report
- Pen in black if possible and make sure it is legible
- No Tippex and cross through and sign any alterations
- Remember your report may be required as part of any legal action or disciplinary procedures
- Keep a copy and file it securely
- Do not “investigate” or “diagnose”

Copies of example recording forms will be shared

Remember to talk to your Designated Safeguarding Lead



Reporting a Safeguarding Concern

The portal, at <https://safeguarding.culture.gov.uk/> step by step guide to help charities correctly manage their concerns, identify the right people to contact if needed and access helpful resources and advice.

Pan-Dorset Safer Children Partnership - <https://pdscp.co.uk/>

(Professionals) Tel.no. 01305 2285558

(Families & The Public) Tel.no. 01305 228866

Dorset Safeguarding Adults Board

Email : adultaccess@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk

Tel.no. 01305 221016 (duty hours 8.30-5.00)

Reporting a Concern – Children Safeguarding

<https://pdscp.co.uk/working-with-children/applying-thresholds-and-reporting-concerns/>

Reporting a Concern - Online Adult Safeguarding Portal

<https://www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/care-and-support-for-adults/adult-abuse/safeguarding-portal.aspx>



In an **emergency** call the Police: **999**

Safeguarding in Practice

Village Halls & Community Spaces

Every organisation that delivers charitable activities has a responsibility to safeguard people from harm or abuse, whether they are staff members, volunteers, or other people who encounter your charity through its work.



Safeguarding responsibilities: Safeguarding policy and procedures Why it is important

- It tells staff and users what you do to keep them safe
 - It tells staff and users what to do if they have a safeguarding concern
 - It tells staff their role in safeguarding
 - It is based on established guidance
 - It is part of your safeguarding compliance
-
- Research shows that **abusers target organisations** where there are no policies or procedures in place to protect children and adults at risk and where they will achieve easy access to victims.



Key safeguarding legislation

Legislation protecting vulnerable people from abuse

- The Care Act 2014
- Sexual Offences Act 2003
- Safeguarding Vulnerable Groups Act 2006 and the Protection of Freedoms Bill
- Ill treatment or wilful neglect (It is an offence under section 127 of the MHA1983)
- Public Interest Disclosure Act 1998

Legislation protecting children from abuse

- The Children Act 1989 and 2004
- Female Genital Mutilation Act 2003
- Children and Families Act 2014
- Safeguarding Vulnerable Groups Act 2006 and the Protection of Freedoms Bill
- Many more...



Safeguarding in Practice

Safeguarding Lead

Responsible for ensuring P&P is updated and monitors compliance. They will also be responsible for checking DBS eligibility

DBS Checks

The Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) helps employers make safer recruitment decisions and prevent unsuitable people from working with children and adults at risk. These can be carried out by the Volunteer Centre Dorset . Different levels for different roles - (Basic/Standard/Enhanced)

<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/dbs-eligibility-guidance>

Safe Recruitment

Practice safe recruitment where the committee has employees/volunteers. This includes:

- Complete an application form which shows their employment history
- Provide at least two references.
- If working directly with children or adults at risk a referee should confirm that in their opinion they are suitable to work with children/adults at risk.
- If working directly with children or adults at risk, they should complete a Standard or Enhanced DBS.



Charity Commission: Safeguarding responsibilities

Safeguarding should be a governance priority for all charities



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Press release

Regulator finds significant failures at the Presidents Club Charitable Trust

Commission's case into the charity concludes that the trustees breached key trustee duties

Published 12 July 2018
From: [The Charity Commission](#)



- ❑ “Trustees should ensure their charity provides a safe environment and protects staff, volunteers, and anyone who comes into contact with it from abuse or maltreatment of any kind”.
- ❑ ‘Trustees should take steps to ensure no one who comes into contact with their charity suffers distress or harm, as well as safeguarding children and adults at risk, says regulator of charities’.
- ❑ “Our wider compliance case work shows that problems in charities often result from basic failures by trustees to understand and fulfil their legal duties.
- ❑ “In the area of safeguarding, this can include failing to recognise that your beneficiaries might be at risk or vulnerable in certain situations, or not taking proper steps to protect others who come into contact with your charity, such as staff members and volunteers.”



10 actions trustee boards need to take to ensure good safeguarding governance

Safeguarding should be a key governance priority for all charities

Ensure your charity has an adequate safeguarding policy, code of conduct and any other safeguarding procedures. Regularly review and update the policy and procedures to ensure they are fit for purpose

Identify possible risks, including risks to your beneficiaries or to anyone else connected to your charity and any emerging risks on the horizon

Consider how to improve the safeguarding culture within your charity

Ensure that everyone involved with the charity knows how to recognise, respond to, report and record a safeguarding concern

Ensure people know how to raise a safeguarding concern

Regularly evaluate any safeguarding training provided, ensuring it is current and relevant

Review which posts within the charity can and must have a DBS check from the Disclosure and Barring Service

Have a risk assessment process in place for posts which do not qualify for a DBS check, but which still have contact with children or adults at risk

Periodically review your safeguarding policy and procedures, learning from any serious incident or 'near miss'

If you work overseas, find out what different checks and due diligence you need to carry out in different geographical areas of operation



**CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES**



Safeguarding responsibilities: Village Halls & Community Spaces

The committee may not work directly with children or adults at risk, but it is responsible for the contracts that it makes with hirers, and will be expected to find out what the relevant law is, how it applies to their building and users of the hall (volunteers, staff, contractors) and to comply with it where appropriate.

Developing your policies and procedures

An example of a policy for village hall management committees will be shared as a link after today's session, for all attendees. It is an overarching policy covering safeguarding of children and adults at risk. Most of the procedures can easily be put in place by the committee or may require adjustment of policies and procedures that are already in place.

- Organisations hiring the hall will need to have their own policy(s) relevant to their activity.
- DCA can assist hall committees should they have any queries or need additional support.



ACRE – Available Support

ACRE and the ACRE Network provides an information and advice service for village hall management committees through its network of village hall advisers. For further information and to find your local village hall adviser visit the ACRE website: www.acre.org.uk

ACRE produces a range of village hall publications and information sheets to support this service that may be of interest:

- Model Hiring Agreement 2016 Edition
- Model Occupational Licence
- *Information Sheet 5, Safeguarding*
- Information Sheet 21, Overnight accommodation in village halls
- Information Sheet 15, Health & safety legislation, and village halls
- Information Sheet 38, Fire safety in village halls
- Information Sheet 42, Equality, and village halls

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/safeguarding-duties-for-charity-trustees#policies-procedures-and-practices-you-need-to-have>



THE DAILY SQUAWK

www.dailynews.com

THE WORLD'S FAVOURITE NEWSPAPER

- Since 1879

Scandal: Abused at village hall



Lorem Ipsum In libris
graecis appetere mea. At
vim odio lorem omnes, pri id
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***'Nothing to do
with us, we only
provided the
venue' says
premises***

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Ea pro natum **No
safeguarding policy**
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facilisis vituperatoribus

IF IN DOUBT

SEEK ADVICE

NO REGRETS

...if only...



THANK YOU

ADDITIONAL SUPPORT

<https://www.anncrafttrust.org/resources/safeguarding-adults-legislation/>
Legislation Safeguarding Adults

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/preventing-abuse/child-protection-system/england/legislation-policy-guidance/> - Legislation Safeguarding Children

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/preventing-abuse/safeguarding/writing-a-safeguarding-policy/>

Support to write your own Safeguarding Policy

