

SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN & VULNERABLE ADULT POLICY

'Vulnerable' individuals:

- Children under 18 years
- Young people
- People with learning difficulties or physical disabilities
- Frail elderly people
- Carers

The Hall has a duty of care to all those using land, premises, equipment, and facilities under its remit. This policy applies to volunteers, hall users and trustees.

Principles: The Hall has a duty to safeguard vulnerable users of premises, equipment and facilities under its control, as well as those who may come into contact with vulnerable users. Members should respond to any concerns they may have regarding the physical, sexual, emotional or psychological safety of a vulnerable person, and/or concerns relating to discriminatory or financial violation or exploitation of a vulnerable person. This policy is in place to protect all vulnerable persons regardless of gender, ethnicity, disability, sexuality, religion or faith.

Policy:

1. No member, no employee and no volunteer of the Hall will have unsupervised access to children or vulnerable adults.
2. Any suspicions or allegations of abuse against a child will be taken seriously and referred to the principal authority speedily and appropriately.
3. The Hall will ensure to the best of its ability that the welfare of the child or vulnerable adult is paramount and shall alert the principal authority and the police service where appropriate. All children and vulnerable adults, without exception, have the right to protection from abuse, whether physical, verbal, sexual, bullying, exclusion or neglect. Bullying, shouting, physical violence, sexism and racism towards children will not be permitted or tolerated.
4. All trustees / volunteers will be made aware of this policy.
5. The Hall will ensure that young people and vulnerable users are welcome to meetings and will feel safe and secure in the meeting environment.
6. The Volunteers / Trustees will assist anyone who is unable to read notices wherever displayed and any physically disabled person who wishes to attend meetings.
8. All facilities will be available as far as possible to all users.
9. The Hall will strive to use various types of media to publicise its actions.

Reporting incidents: The nominated Safeguarding Children and Vulnerable Adult representative is the Chair. He will be responsible for reporting concerns that may arise, as a matter of urgency, to Ceredigion County Council as the Child Protection and Vulnerable Adult lead agency.

The Chair will know –

- Who to contact at Ceredigion County Council – 01545570 400 and out-of-hours Careline 0300 4563554
- Information regarding about helplines and other sources of help for children, young people and vulnerable adults.

Monitoring: This policy will be monitored and reviewed on a regular basis by the Hall trustees.