Holbeton Village Hall Safeguarding Policy and Procedures Policy

HVH (Holbeton Village Hall) will meet all legislative requirements for the protection of children, young persons and vulnerable adults from any form of abuse whilst on our premises.

Procedures

The content of this document becomes the responsibility of HVH Trustees, management committee, hirers, volunteers, contractors (whether paid or unpaid), and any persons on HVH premises, who all have a duty of care.

Abuse may be in the form of physical, verbal, sexual, bullying, exclusion, neglect or combinations of these, regardless of gender, ethnicity, disability, sexuality, religion or faith.

All people associated with the HVH and its use have a collective and individual legal and moral responsibility for Safeguarding these vulnerable persons.

All hirers are expected to have their own Safeguarding policy and procedures, or code of conduct, and failing that must obey this policy and its procedures (available on the HVH website).

An assessment to avoid or minimise risk of abuse should be undertaken before an event, and appropriate remedial action taken as necessary.

No adult shall have unsupervised access to children, young persons and/or vulnerable adults without possession, in advance of an event, of appropriate clearance such as DBS, except for their own parents/legal guardians.

If a child, young person, or vulnerable adult has not been collected after an event, the responsibility of dealing with the situation rests solely with the hirer/event organiser, who, if necessary, must seek advice or involvement from the authorities or the Police.

Any allegations of abuse occurring at an event must be dealt with by the hirer/event organiser. The HVH Safeguarding Representative must be informed. If it is an HVH event or within HVH responsibility the managing committee or its Safeguarding Representative will not carry out an investigation but will refer the matter to appropriate social services safeguarding teams and/or the Police.

The designated HVH Safeguarding Representative is **Sue Collins 01752 830406/ 07796000662**

Definitions

DBS Disclosure and Debarring Service. Certification from them is mandatory if working unsupervised with children.

Abuse A violation of an individual's human or civil rights by any other person(s).

Young Person are of secondary school age or above.

Vulnerable Adult Someone who may be in need of services by reason of mental or other disability, age or illness, and who may not be able to take care of him(her)self, or is unable to protect him(her)self against significant harm or exploitation.

Further Information: ACRE Information Sheet 5 Safeguarding (November 2020) from Action with Communities in Rural England.

Relevant Legislation

The Care Act 2014

The Sexual Offences Act 2003

Safeguarding Vulnerable Groups Act 2006, and the Protection of Freedoms Bill (amends SGVA 2006).

Protection of Freedoms Act 2012

The Children's Act 1989 and 2004

GAN 18/02/2021

Approved: Christine Tarrant 21/02/2021.

Approved by Trustees 18/01/2021

Reviewed 4/5/2026