

# Thurgarton Village Hall: Safeguarding Policy

Thurgarton Village Hall intends to create an environment in which children and vulnerable adults are safe from abuse and in which any suspicion of abuse is promptly and appropriately responded to. Whilst the Thurgarton Village Hall Charity Management Committee (TVHCMC) do not normally run any children's club or activity, and do not normally have unaccompanied contact with children under the auspices of the Village Hall, they will comply with this policy where applicable and require that every hirer whose hire involves children or vulnerable adults has a policy that complies with current legislation and the requirements set out below. Any staff employed by the TVHCMC shall comply with this policy.

In order to achieve a safe environment for children and vulnerable adults the TVHCMC will:

1. Ensure all relevant hirers have a current Safeguarding Policy.

*The TVHCMC require all hirers working with children or vulnerable adults on a regular basis to have an approved safeguarding policy. This must include appropriate provisions to ensure that:*

- good safeguarding working practices are applied
- known abusers are excluded
- appropriate training is provided for paid staff and volunteers
- Safeguarding concerns are reported and followed up appropriately and promptly
- appropriate records are maintained

Occasional hirers, e.g. for children's parties, do not require their own approved policy but will need to observe the requirements of this policy.

2. Ensure all relevant people have a current Disclosure and Barring Service check.

The TVHCMC require that anyone who has unaccompanied contact with children or vulnerable adults at the Village Hall, other than a parent /carers shall hold a current DBS check.

3. Respond appropriately to all safeguarding concerns.

Where abuse is suspected, depending on the circumstance's parents/carers shall normally be the first point of reference, though any safeguarding concerns will also be referred where appropriate to:

- If a child or vulnerable person is in immediate danger, call the police on 999
- Nottinghamshire's Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH)

*Whenever a parent or carer is suspected of being involved in abuse, Nottinghamshire's MASH will be the first point of reference. All concerns and investigations will be kept confidential and shared only with those who need to know. Confidential records will be kept of the allegation and of all subsequent proceedings.*

How to contact the Nottinghamshire MASH?

Telephone 0300 500 8090 during the hours: 8.30am – 5.00pm (Monday to Thursday), 8.30am – 4.30pm (Friday)

In and emergency outside these hours contact: The Emergency Duty Team (EDT) on 0300 456 4546

4. Appoint a committee member responsible for Child Protection.

The TVHG Committee member responsible for Child Protection matters is Karen McAndrew, Secretary.

Reviewed and approved by the TVHCHC 30 March 2023

Next review due March 2025

David Lewis,

Chair, TVHCMC