

## **Chinnor Village Hall Safe Guarding Policy**

The purpose of this policy is to protect people, particularly children, at risk adults and beneficiaries of assistance, from any harm that may be caused due to their coming into contact / visiting Chinnor Village Hall with. This includes harm arising from:

- The conduct of Trustees, visitors, contractors, or personnel associated with Chinnor Village Hall
- The design and implementation of Chinnor Village Hall programmes and activities

The policy lays out the commitments made by Chinnor Village Hall and informs associated personnel of their responsibilities in relation to safeguarding.

### **Safe Guarding and what it means.**

In the UK, safeguarding means protecting peoples' health, wellbeing, and human rights, and enabling them to live free from harm, abuse, and neglect.

Chinnor Village Hall understands it to mean protecting people, including children and at-risk adults, from harm that arises from coming into contact / visiting Chinnor Village Hall

### **Scope**

Associated personnel whilst engaged with work or visits related to Chinnor Village Hall including but not limited to the following: consultants; volunteers; contractors; programme visitors including journalists, celebrities, and politicians.

Chinnor Village Hall believes that everyone we meet, regardless of age, gender identity, disability, sexual orientation, or ethnic origin has the right to be protected from all forms of harm, abuse, neglect, and exploitation. Chinnor Village Hall will not tolerate abuse and exploitation by personnel associated with Chinnor Village Hall.

This policy will address the following areas of safeguarding:

- child safeguarding
- adult safeguarding
- protection from sexual exploitation and abuse.

Chinnor Village Hall commits to addressing safeguarding throughout its work, through the three pillars of prevention, reporting and response.

## Prevention

Chinnor Village Hall will:

- Ensure all who have access to, Chinnor Village Hall are familiar with, and know their responsibilities within this policy!
- Design and undertake all its programs and activities in a way that protects people from any risk of harm that may arise from their meeting Chinnor Village Hall This includes the way in which information about individuals in our programmes is gathered and communicated.
- Ensure Trustees are fully aware of their responsibilities on safeguarding.
- Follow up on reports of safeguarding concerns promptly and according to due process.

## Chinnor Village Hall Responsibilities

### Child safeguarding

Chinnor Village Hall Trustees, Volunteers, Contractors, and associated personnel must not:

- Engage in sexual activity with anyone under the age of 18.
- Sexually abuse or exploit children.
- Subject a child to physical, emotional, or psychological abuse, or neglect
- Engage in any commercially exploitative activities with children including child labour or trafficking.

### Adult safeguarding

- Chinnor Village Hall Trustees, Volunteers, Contractors, and associated personnel must not:
- Sexually abuse or exploit at risk adults.
- Subject an at-risk adult to physical, emotional, or psychological abuse, or neglect

### Protection from sexual exploitation and abuse

- Chinnor Village Hall Trustees, Volunteers, Contractors, and associated personnel must not:
- Exchange money, employment, goods, or services for sexual activity. This includes any exchange of assistance that is due to beneficiaries of assistance.
- Engage in any sexual relationships with beneficiaries of assistance since they are based on inherently unequal power dynamics.

### Additionally

Chinnor Village Hall Trustees, Volunteers, Contractors, and associated personnel must not:

- Contribute to creating and maintaining an environment that prevents safeguarding violations and promotes the implementation of the Safeguarding Policy.

Chinnor Village Hall Trustees, Volunteers, Contractors, and associated personnel must

- Report any concerns or suspicions regarding safeguarding violations by any Chinnor Village Hall Trustees, Volunteers, Contractors, or associated personnel to the appropriate Trustee.
- **Chinnor Village Hall Safe Guarding Lead – Dr Fiona Mantle or Margaret Dingwall deputy lead.**

## Enabling Reports

Chinnor Village Hall will ensure that safe, appropriate, accessible means of reporting safeguarding concerns are made available to Trustees, Volunteers, Contractors, and the communities we work with.

Any person reporting concerns or complaints through formal whistleblowing channels (or if they request it) will be protected by Chinnor Village Hall and held in confidence whilst the allegation is investigated.

Chinnor Village Hall will also accept complaints from external sources such as members of the public, partners, and official bodies.

## Reporting a Safe Guarding concern

All complaints or concerns relating to safeguarding should be reported immediately to the **Safeguarding Focal Point**

- **Chinnor Village Hall Safe Guarding Lead – Dr Fiona Mantle or deputy lead Margaret Dingwall. Email: [cvh2003@hotmail.com](mailto:cvh2003@hotmail.com)**

## Response

Chinnor Village Hall will follow up safeguarding reports and concerns according to policy and procedure, and legal and statutory obligations.

Chinnor Village Hall will apply appropriate measures to those found in breach of policy.

Chinnor Village Hall will offer support to survivors of harm caused by others or associated personnel, regardless of whether a formal internal response is carried out (such as an internal investigation). Decisions regarding support will be led by the survivor.

## **Confidentiality**

It is essential that confidentiality is maintained at all stages of the process when dealing with safeguarding concerns. Information relating to the concern and subsequent case management should be shared on a need-to-know basis only and should be always kept secure.