

PURLEY MEMORIAL HALL

SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN AND VULNERABLE ADULTS POLICY

The Trustees of Purley Memorial Hall recognise that all children and vulnerable adults, whatever their sex, disability, racial or ethnic background, religious beliefs or sexual orientation, have a right to be in a safe and caring environment and to equal protection from any form of exploitation or abuse.

We consider any individual aged under 18 to be a child for the purposes of this Safeguarding Children and Vulnerable Adults Policy. Vulnerable adults are those aged 18 and over who receive or may need support to live in the community, or who may be unable to protect themselves from harm or exploitation by other people. This may be as a result of a learning or physical disability, a physical or mental illness (including an addiction to alcohol or drugs), or a reduction in physical or mental capacity.

The Trustees do not normally run their own activities which bring its Trustees, staff, members and volunteers (“Representatives”) into regular contact with children and vulnerable adults. Representatives of the Trustees may, however, come into contact with children and/or vulnerable adults through one of the Hall’s hirers.

We will therefore ensure that a hirer of the Hall agrees:

- (1) to obtain any eligible DBS check(s);
- (2) to comply with any relevant requirements under legislation including the Safeguarding Vulnerable Groups Act 2006 and the Children Act 1989 and 2004; and
- (3) that all reasonable steps must be taken to prevent harm, and to respond appropriately when harm does occur. Relevant concerns must be reported.

We will also ensure that they have in place a safeguarding policy and procedure which includes a designated person within the hirer’s group who is responsible for safeguarding children and/or vulnerable adults.

We will expect any representative of the Trustees who works with one of our hirers to familiarise themselves with any safeguarding policies and procedures of the hirer and to follow them when involved in programmes with children and/or vulnerable adults and, if necessary, to have registered with the Independent Safeguarding Authority before engaging in the activity.

Complaints Procedure

Since representatives of the Trustees in that capacity will only engage in activities with children and/or vulnerable adults through one of the Hall’s hirer groups, the procedures for dealing with any concerns or complaints about such persons in connection with the activity will be operated by the hirer.

The first point of contact for complaints will be a designated person within the hirer group, with clear responsibilities for safeguarding children and/or vulnerable adults, in accordance with their own safeguarding policy.

The Trustees will work with the Hall’s hirers to ensure that any concerns relating to children and/or vulnerable adult protection or possible abuse are referred appropriately and will cooperate with the work of statutory agencies as necessary.

This Policy was adopted by the Trustees of Purley Memorial Hall on 14 September 2018.

The Policy will be reviewed annually.

Reviewed 20 July 2021

Reviewed 9 June 2022

Reviewed 18 July 2023