



CHILD PROTECTION POLICY

Guiding Principles: The welfare of the child is paramount. All children, without exception, have the right to protection from abuse.

Policy: All organisations using the hall that provide activities/services for children under 18 years old and/or vulnerable adults shall have a child protection policy.

Procedure: The hiring agreement requires that all such organisations demonstrate and sign they have an approved child protection policy in place.

Policy: No member of Medstead Village Hall Committee, cleaner or volunteer will have unsupervised access to children under 18 years old unless appropriately vetted.

Procedure: All members of Medstead Village Hall Committee, cleaner and any volunteer will be made aware of this policy and relevant vetting procedures. Should checks become necessary they will be undertaken in compliance to The Protection of Children Act 1999, The Children's Act 1989 and part V of the Police Act 1997.

Policy: All suspicions or allegations of abuse against a child will be taken seriously and dealt with speedily and appropriately.

Procedure: Medstead Village Hall Committee members are responsible for Child Protection matters. They have responsibility for reporting concerns that arise, as a matter of urgency, to Hampshire County Council Children's Services [website: www.hants.gov.uk/childrens-services/childrenandyoungpeople/child-protection].

Policy: All Committee members are required to be aware of Child Protection issues.

Procedure: Copies of the relevant Acts and Department of Health guidelines are available as a reference material for Committee Members.

Policy: The policies and procedures outlined above are regularly reviewed.

Procedure: An annual review takes place following the Annual General Meeting to allow for any required up-date of policies and/or procedures. New Committee Members will be provided with an understanding of their responsibilities in matters of Child Protection.

Policy: Members of the public who use the hall will be made aware of the Child Protection policies and procedures adopted by Medstead Village Hall Committee.

Procedure: A copy of this document is displayed on the Notice Board, together with other Policy documents.