

Shiva Cultural & Community Centre

Charity Regd:1122604 UK & Wales

Tell-01252404304, Mob: 07378651331, Email. Shivatemplealdershot@gmail.com

Child and Vulnerable Adults Protection Policy

Adopted: April 2023

Our Safeguarding Policy

This policy applies to all staff, including senior managers and the board of trustees, paid staff, volunteers and sessional workers, agency staff, students or anyone working on behalf of SHIVA CULTURAL AND COMMUNITY CENTRE.

SHIVA CULTURAL AND COMMUNITY CENTRE believes that a child, young person or vulnerable adult should never experience abuse of any kind. We have a responsibility to promote the welfare of all children, young people and vulnerable adults and to keep them safe. We are committed to practice in a way that protects them.

This document is written in accordance with Hampshire Safeguarding Children Partnership (HSCP) and 'Working Together to Safeguard Children (July 2018).

Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility

A child centred approach

Working Together to Safeguard Children defined safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children as:

- Protecting children from maltreatment
- Preventing impairment of children's health or development
- Ensuring that children grow up in circumstance consistent with the provision of safe and effective care and,
- Taking action to enable all children to have the best outcomes



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Principles upon which the Child Protection Policy is based.

- The welfare of a child or young person will always be paramount
- The welfare of families will be promoted.
- The rights, wishes and feelings of children, young people and their families will be respected and listened to.
- Those people in positions of responsibility within the organisation will work in accordance with the interests of children and young people and follow the policy outlined below.
- Those people in positions of responsibility within the organisation will ensure that
 - the same opportunities are available to everyone and that all differences between
 - o individuals will be treated with respect.

The purpose of this policy is:

- To protect children and young people who receive SHIVA CULTURAL AND COMMUNITY CENTRE services. This includes the children of adults who use our services;
- To provide staff and volunteers with the overarching principles that guide our approach to safeguarding.
- We recognise that the welfare of the child or vulnerable person is paramount, as enshrined in the Children Act 1989.
- All children and vulnerable adults regardless of age, disability, gender, racial heritage, religious belief, sexual orientation or identity, have a right to equal protection from all types of harm or abuse.
- Some children are additionally vulnerable because of the impact of previous experiences, their level of dependency, communication needs or other issues.
- Working in partnership with children, young people, vulnerable adults, their parents, carers and other agencies is essential in promoting young peoples and vulnerable adults welfare.
- We will seek to keep children, young people and vulnerable adults safe by valuing them, listening to and respecting them.
- Adopting child protection practices through procedures and a code of conduct for staff and volunteers.
- Developing and implementing an effective safety policy and related procedures.
- Providing effective management for staff and volunteers through supervision, support.
- Recruiting staff and volunteers safely, ensuring all necessary checks are made.



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- Sharing information about child or vulnerable adults protection and good practice with children, vulnerable adults, parents, carers, staff and volunteers.
- Sharing concerns with agencies who need to know, and involving parents, children and vulnerable adults appropriately.

Legal Framework

This policy has been drawn up on the basis of law and guidance that seeks to protect children, namely:

- Children Act 1989
- United Convention of the Rights of the Child 1991
- Data Protection Act 2018
- Sexual Offences Act 2003
- Children Act 2004
- Protection of Freedoms Act 2012
- Relevant government guidance on safeguarding children

If any parent or young person/child has any concerns about the conduct of any member of the organisation, this should be raised in the first instance with Chair/Vice Chair of Trustees (designated child protection contact).

EMERGENCY

If a child is at imminent significant risk of harm/immediate danger you should consider calling 999 in the first instance or 0300 555 1384 during office hours (8.30am to 5pm, Monday to Thursday, 8.30pm to 4.30 pm on Friday) or 0300 555 1373 at all other times to contact the Out of Hours service.

If you are concerned about a vulnerable child, or if you are in doubt, don't delay, see information below

We are committed to reviewing our policy and good practice annually.

This policy was last reviewed on:January 2025...... (date).



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Signed:	 	
Bir Bikram Bhattarai President		