

YR HEN YSGOL, DINAS

SAFEGUARDING POLICY



INTRODUCTION

The Trustees of Yr Hen Ysgol are committed to the protection and safety of everyone who enters our premises including children, young people and adults at risk, who may be involved as visitors or participants in activities and events. We also have a duty to safeguard and support our Trustees, volunteers, staff and other users.

The Trustees ensure that there is an appropriate and up-to-date Health and Safety Policy in place. The premises are checked regularly and any faults identified are rectified as swiftly as possible. In addition, this policy is to promote a culture that protects the wellbeing of all vulnerable persons regardless of their gender, ethnicity, disability, sexuality, religion or faith.

Volunteers, staff and hirers must be made aware of the Safeguarding Policy.

Policy Statement

1. The policy is about stopping abuse where it is happening and preventing abuse where there is a risk it may occur.
2. No Trustee, staff or volunteer will have unsupervised access to children or vulnerable adults in any activity unless they have been appropriately vetted.
3. All suspicions or allegations of abuse against a child, young person or vulnerable adult will be taken seriously and dealt with speedily and appropriately.
4. The Trustees will nominate a Safeguarding Officer for Yr Hen Ysgol.
5. The Trustees will maintain confidentiality at all times, except in circumstances where to do so would place someone at risk of harm. In this case, the Safeguarding Officer would follow appropriate procedures.
6. The Safeguarding Policy will be reviewed annually.

Definitions

Children and young people are defined as those persons aged under 18 years.

Safeguarding the protection of young people is defined as:

- protecting children from maltreatment;
- preventing impairment of children's health and development;
- ensuring that children grow up in circumstances consistent with the provision of safe and effective care; and
- taking action to enable all children to have the best outcomes.

A vulnerable adult refers to someone over 18 years old who:

- has care and support needs;
- is experiencing, or is at risk of, abuse and neglect; or

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- is unable to protect him or herself against abuse or neglect, or the risk of it.

A person may not be receiving care or support from care or health services but may still be at risk.

Procedures

- All trustees and volunteers will be given information about child protection awareness.
- A copy of this Safeguarding Policy will be displayed at Yr Hen Ysgol and made available on the website to hirers and users.
- It is the responsibility of organisations or individuals hiring or using Yr Hen Ysgol for the purpose of holding activities involving children, young people or vulnerable adults, to ensure that they have appropriate safeguarding procedures in place. By signing the terms and conditions of booking, they confirm that this is the case.
- For non-commercial events, eg birthday parties, the hirers or users should themselves be satisfied with safeguarding arrangements for anyone providing additional services, for example entertainment or transport.
- If the premises are being used by more than one hirer or user, they will need to ensure that children and vulnerable adults are supervised when visiting the toilets.
- It is the responsibility of users to inform the Trustees of any damage, breakages or safety issues requiring attention.

Reporting incidents

Any person with a concern should raise the issue with the Safeguarding Officer and not discuss the matter more widely.

The nominated Safeguarding Officer has responsibility for reporting concerns that arise to the Pembrokeshire County Council Child Protection and Vulnerable Adult lead agency.

The Safeguarding Officer should:

- know who to contact at the local authority for advice and referrals;
- know about help lines and other sources of help for children and vulnerable people; and
- ensure that there is a supportive environment where concerns are taken seriously.

The Safeguarding Officer is: Rosemary Lait

Date: January 2024