

Victoria Village Hall Abersychan

Safeguarding Policy

Effective from: April 2025

Review Date: April 2026

1. Introduction

Victoria Village Hall is committed to ensuring the safety and well-being of all individuals, particularly children and adults at risk, who engage with our services and activities.

This policy aligns with the principles outlined in the Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act 2014 and the Wales Safeguarding Procedures.

2. Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to:

- Protect children and adults at risk from harm
- Provide staff and volunteers with clear guidelines on safeguarding responsibilities
- Ensure consistent and effective safeguarding practices

3. Scope

This policy applies to all trustees, staff, volunteers, and any individuals or organisations working on behalf of Victoria Village Hall.

4. Legal Framework

Our safeguarding approach is guided by:

- Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act 2014
- Children Act 1989 and 2004
- Wales Safeguarding Procedures
- United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child
- Human Rights Act 1998

5. Definitions

- Child: Anyone under the age of 18
- Adult at Risk: A person aged 18 or over who is experiencing or at risk of abuse or neglect and unable to protect themselves

6. Roles and Responsibilities

- Safeguarding Lead: Responsible for overseeing safeguarding practices and acting as the main point of contact
- Staff and Volunteers: Must report any concerns to the Safeguarding Lead promptly

7. Recognising Abuse

Abuse can take various forms, including:

- Physical
- Emotional
- Sexual
- Neglect
- Financial
- Discriminatory

Staff and volunteers should be vigilant and report any signs or disclosures of abuse.

8. Reporting Procedures

- Any concerns should be reported to the Safeguarding Lead immediately
- In the absence of the Safeguarding Lead, contact Torfaen County Borough Council Social Services directly

9. Confidentiality

All safeguarding concerns will be handled with confidentiality, sharing information only with those who need to know in order to protect individuals at risk.

10. Training

All staff and volunteers will receive regular safeguarding training to ensure they are aware of their responsibilities and the procedures to follow.

11. Contact Information

Victoria Village Hall Safeguarding Lead

Name: Giles Davies

Phone: 078 87 08 77 98

Email: giles.davies@outlook.com

Torfaen County Borough Council Social Services

Address: Adult Social Care, Civic Centre, Pontypool, Gwent, NP4 6YB

Phone: 01495 762200

Website: <https://www.torfaen.gov.uk>

Children's Services: 01495 762200

Out of Hours Emergency Duty Team: 0800 328 4432

12. Policy Review

This policy will be reviewed annually or in response to significant changes in legislation or organisational practices.