**The Lant Charity**

**Safeguarding Policy – Berkswell Reading Room**

This policy applies to the Lant Charity trustees, Berkswell Reading Room Committee, visitors, users, helpers, volunteers and hirers of Berkswell Reading Room. All will be made aware of this policy.

The Lant Charity trustees and the Berkswell Reading Room Committee understand that the welfare of children, young people and adults at risk, taking part in events and activities in Berkswell Reading Room is paramount. All children, young people and adults at risk have the right to protection from abuse.

It is recognised that safeguarding is everyone’s responsibility.

The charity and the committee will work to promote a culture that enables issues about safeguarding and promoting welfare, to be addressed through awareness training and updates from our Designated Safeguarding Lead. All relevant information and guidance will be held on the Lant Charity website and the Berkswell Reading Room website.

In the course of carrying out their role, no Lant Charity trustee or Berkswell Reading Room Committee member will have unsupervised access to children, young people or adults at risk.

**Responsibility of Hirers and Users** providing activities to the public including children, young people and adults at risk, other than for hire for private parties arranged for invited friends and family, may be asked:

* to produce a copy of their Safeguarding Policy
* for evidence that they have carried out relevant checks through the Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS)
* to ensure that any activities for children, young people and adults at risk are only provided by fit and proper persons in accordance with the Safeguarding Vulnerable Groups Act 2006 and any subsequent legislation
* that they are expected to behave in accordance with the code of conduct expected by their organisation and act on any breach of the code of conduct or any concern about a member of staff or volunteer
* that they have a responsibility to provide a safe environment in which children can develop and enjoy the event
* that they have a responsibility to identify children who may be in need of extra help or who are suffering, or are likely to suffer significant harm
* that they know how to recognise, respond and take appropriate and timely action to a safeguarding concern, working with other services as needed.

All suspicions or allegations of abuse against a child, young person or adult at risk will be taken seriously and dealt with speedily and appropriately. Any concerns that are reported to the Lant Charity trustees or the Berkswell Reading Room Committee will be passed as a matter of urgency to Solihull Local Authority Children’s Services or, if necessary, to the Police.

**The Lant Charity and the Berkswell Reading Room Committee Designated Safeguarding Lead - DSL** is Jayne Draper and can be contacted for support with any concerns you have and to support you with action that is required as a result of a safeguarding concern on 07877 865393.

An annual review will take place to allow for any required up-date of policies and or procedures. New trustees, committee members and volunteers will be provided and supported with an understanding of their responsibilities in matters of safeguarding.

Penny Downing

Signed by the Chair

The Lant Charity

Date policy adopted: September 2019

Revised and Updated: November 2024

Next review date: September 2025

**SAFEGUARDING NOTICE (For the Noticeboard)**

**If anyone is in immediate danger call 999**

**If you have significant worries about a child or young person please call Solihull’s Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub Team – MASH - to speak to the Duty Social Worker for advice and to take appropriate action**

* **0121 788 4300 option 2**

**Monday to Thursday 8:45am - 5:20pm,**

**Friday 8:45am - 4.30pm**

**or**

* **0121 605 6060 (Evenings, weekends or bank holidays)**

**If an allegation is made about a user or anyone connected with the Lant Charity or the Berkswell Reading Room please contact** [Reporting a Concern – (safeguardingsolihull.org.uk)](https://www.safeguardingsolihull.org.uk/lscp/i-am-a-parent-carer/reporting-a-concern/)