

Welcome to the ATCVA eLearning module

Safeguarding Adults & Children Level 1

This course has been designed for volunteers at the ATC and will take about 1.5 hours to complete, which includes reading the links and watching the video.

Safeguarding vulnerable people is paramount. We all have a duty to protect each other.

What is Safeguarding?

- Safeguarding is about preventing abuse and neglect to members of our community who cannot protect themselves from significant harm.
- This includes safeguarding adults as well as children.
- We will watch a video later to explain safeguarding.

Safeguarding adults

If you are affected by anything you read or watch during this presentation please do not hesitate to speak to a member of staff, who can arrange for you to receive support.

Andy Stevens is our Safeguarding Lead, or just ask Anita if she fancies a coffee at the garden centre! Anita is trained to listen.

Please watch this Dorset Safeguarding video

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gyTfbO8esZw>

Is safeguarding a policy, or law!

The ATCVA is a safe place but it is not exempt from its Safeguarding responsibilities.

“The Safeguarding Vulnerable Groups Act 2006 is **a key piece of legislation** to keep in mind when recruiting new staff members and volunteers. This Act was passed to help avoid harm or risk or harm by preventing people who are deemed unsuitable to work with children and vulnerable adults.”

So it is Dorset Council’s responsibility for safe recruitment.

There are three key pieces of legislation

But legislation goes further than recruitment. There is also:-

- Safeguarding Vulnerable Groups Act 2006
- Health and Social Care Act 2012
- Mental Capacity Act 2005
- The Care Act 2014
- The Equality Act 2010

In order to be aware of the importance of safeguarding, how to act and what to look out for, people need to be informed.

The requirement for training

This includes not only our colleagues but:-

- people who benefit from the work through your association
- other people who come into contact with your association through its work. <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/safeguarding-duties-for-charity-trustees>

Signs and indicators of abuse together with the Dorset Council policies can be seen here. <https://bit.ly/3morKSH>

This is a Dorset example

Dorset Serious case review

Read how complicated and extensive this case was, the number of agencies involved and the conclusion.



What was the message in that video?

No one knows what is going on in any relationship. Safeguarding does not just apply to strangers. Anyone of us could experience violence or abuse of some kind. You just don't know.

The video highlighted who you can contact within Dorset Council. Your ATC lead is Andy Stevens.

But whatever you decide to do, don't ignore a concern! Act on that gut instinct that something feels wrong!

Should you tell the person?

This is a tricky question. Should you tell the person you are going to report about your concerns and who you are reporting them to?

A professional would. They would gently explain why. But as a friend, colleague or volunteer would you?

Honesty is the best policy, but if you are worried about reporting them to an authority, then it is better to do so anonymously to make sure you keep the person safe. Use Crime Stoppers if necessary.

Children

Safeguarding children is virtually the same as safeguarding adults, but in our circumstance, unless the child says something to you, which would cause you to be concerned, it is usually picked up by the people who know and understand the child, like the school. But this may not happen during, say, one of our open weekends.

Children seldom say anything, therefore we all need to be aware of the signs, and if necessary speak up for them.

Why do you need to know about safeguarding children?

Examples of high profile cases have included [Victoria Climbié](#) and Baby Peter (<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-11626806>) shocked the world.

Reviews and inquiries into such cases often identify the same concerns:

- poor communication and information sharing between professionals and agencies
- inadequate training and support about observing the signs

Why do we need to know about safeguarding children?

Whilst those people working in schools and health care are well placed to identify children and young people who may be at risk and act to safeguard their welfare, this short NSPCC video covers the signs and indicators for children.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4EY_IrTUhYQ

And the message is.....

If you have any doubts at all, please report it. To someone!

Who do I report my concerns to again?

Just to remind you, there are safeguarding leads within Dorset Council. All staff members have access to these safeguarding leads.

But, if you are worried or even just slightly suspicious, you can also make an anonymous report to Crime Stoppers or Dorset Police direct. You do not have to identify yourself.

At the very least please tell a member of staff at the centre. They will take advice for you.

Who to contact in Dorset

If you have a concern an adult is being abused or neglected, call 01305 221016.

Contact the Police on 999 if you think someone is in immediate risk of harm.

Children's Advice and Duty Service (ChAD)

Tel: 01305 228866

Evaluation

Thank you for participating in this level 1 Safeguarding Adults and Safeguarding Children session.

Please complete the knowledge quiz on the following link.
<https://forms.office.com/e/ufNSKVpDir>