



CLARENCE HALL SAFEGUARDING POLICY

Last updated March 2025

POLICY STATEMENT

The Clarence Hall Management Board (Management Board) is the management body for The Clarence Hall, Crickhowell, which is a registered charity (1187701) and a company limited by guarantee (11971202).

This policy defines how The Clarence Hall operates to safeguard and promote the welfare of children, young people and adults at risk of abuse or neglect. This policy will apply to all employees, contractors and volunteers.

The Management Board has a duty of care and is committed to the protection and safety of everyone who enters our premises including children, young people and adults at risk involved as visitors and/or as participants in all activities and events.

It also has a duty to safeguard and support our trustees, volunteers, and employees.

This policy should be read in conjunction with the Hall's Whistleblowing Policy, which is available on the Hall's website at <https://www.clarencehallcrickhowell.org.uk>.

DEFINITIONS

(i) Children and young people are defined as those persons aged under 18 years old.

Safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children 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
- taking action to enable all children to have the best outcomes.

(ii) Adult at risk of abuse or neglect

For the purposes of this policy, adult at risk refers to someone over 18 years old who, according to paragraph 14.2 of the Care Act 2015:

- has care and support needs
- is experiencing, or is at risk of, abuse or neglect
- as a result of their care and support needs is unable to protect himself or herself against the abuse or neglect or the risk of it.

If someone has care and support needs but is not currently receiving care or support from a health or care service, they may still be an adult at risk.

PERSONS AFFECTED

- All trustees, volunteers, and employees
- All those attending any activity or service that is being delivered from the Hall
- All visitors and contractors

POLICY PRINCIPLES

There can be no excuses for not taking all reasonable action to protect adults at risk of abuse, exploitation, radicalisation, and mistreatment. All citizens of the United Kingdom have their rights enshrined within the Human Rights Act 1998. People who are eligible to receive health and community care services may be additionally vulnerable to the violation of these rights by reason of disability, impairment, age, or illness.

The Clarence Hall, Crickhowell has a zero-tolerance approach to abuse.

The Clarence Hall, Crickhowell recognises that under the Care Act 2014, it has a duty for the care and protection of adults who are at risk of abuse. It also recognises its responsibilities for the safety and care of children under the Children Act 1989 and 2004. The Clarence Hall, Crickhowell is committed to promoting wellbeing, harm prevention and to responding effectively if concerns are raised.

The policy is about stopping abuse where it is happening and preventing abuse where there is a risk that it may occur.

The Management Board is committed to the following principles:

- The welfare of the child, young person or adult at risk is paramount
- All children, young people and adults at risk have the right to protection from abuse
- Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility: for services to be effective each professional and organisation should play their full part; and
- All suspicions and allegations of abuse must be properly reported to the relevant internal and external authorities and dealt with swiftly and appropriately.

PROCEDURES

- (i) All members of the Management Board and the Board of Trustees will:
- a) sign an annual Trustee Statement of Eligibility which includes a declaration that they have no convictions in relation to abuse.
 - b) familiarise themselves with safeguarding responsibilities; undertake training on safeguarding issues, including whistleblowing, where it is available and offered by

- their local safeguarding board/partnership or other local support organisation;
ensure that they understand the principles set out in this policy.
- c) work together to promote a culture that enables issues about safeguarding and promoting welfare to be addressed.
- (ii)** All members of the Management Board and the Board of Trustees, helpers or other volunteers will not have unsupervised access to children or adults at risk unless appropriately vetted.
- (iii)** A member of the Management Board will be appointed to be responsible for child and adult at risk safeguarding matters. This person will have responsibility for reporting concerns that arise, as a matter of urgency, to the relevant safeguarding agency. Until further notice the named person is Dean Christy.
- (iv)** All suspicions or allegations of abuse against a child or adult at risk will be taken seriously and dealt with speedily and appropriately. The appointed person will know who to contact and where to go for support and advice in relation to an allegation, a concern about the quality of care or practice or a complaint. An allegation may relate to a person who works with children or adult at risk who has:
- a) behaved in a way that has harmed a child or adult at risk or may have harmed a child or adult at risk.
 - b) possibly committed a criminal offence against or related to a child or adult at risk; or
 - c) behaved towards a child or children or adult at risk in a way that indicates they may pose a risk of harm to children.
- (v)** The Management Board will ensure that all hirers of the hall have signed a hiring agreement. This will require all hirers who wish to use the hall for activities which include children and adults at risk, other than for hire for private parties arranged for invited friends and family, to produce a copy of their Safeguarding Policy and evidence that they have carried out relevant checks through the Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS).
- (vi)** The Management Board will carry out an annual review of this policy.

FURTHER HELP AND ADVICE

Concerns about vulnerable adults should be raised with Powys People Direct (Tel 01597 827666) or Action on Elder Abuse (Tel 0808 8088141).

Further help and advice can be obtained from NSPCC (Tel 0808 800 500) or Childline (Tel 0800 1111).

Date of last update and approval by Management Board: March 2025

Date of next review: January 2026

Responsible officer: Dean Christy