



Llangors Youth and Community Centre

Safeguarding Vulnerable Users Policy

Policy Statement:

Llangors Youth and Community Centre Management Committee recognises that it has a duty to safeguard vulnerable users of the Community Centre and its premises and those who may come into contact with vulnerable users. This policy applies to all trustees, hirers, contractors, volunteers and other visitors to the Community Centre.

The welfare of the child or vulnerable adult is paramount and is the responsibility of everyone. All children and vulnerable adults have the right to protection from abuse, regardless of gender, ethnicity, disability, sexuality, religion or faith. All people associated with the Community Centre and its use have a responsibility for the safeguarding of children and vulnerable adults

Llangors Youth and Community Centre Management Committee is committed therefore to ensuring that volunteers and those participating in activities held in the Centre have an understanding of what forms abuse may take and that they know where to raise concerns if abuse is suspected or reported.

Members of the Management Committee do not supervise children or vulnerable adults as part of their duties as trustees. If the Management Committee organises an event which includes children it will stipulate that children must be accompanied by parents or guardians.

Definitions:

Vulnerable users include –

- children and young people under the age of 18 years. In this policy 'children' means 'children and young people'.
- adults with learning difficulties or physical disability, age or illness and who may not be able to take care of him or herself, or unable to protect him or herself against significant harm of exploitation

Disclosure:

A person states they have been or are being abused by another.

Allegation:

A member of staff or volunteer working with children or vulnerable adults is accused of committing an abuse.

Abuse:

1. A violation of an individual's human and civil rights by any other person/s.
2. May consist of a single act or repeated acts. It may be physical, verbal or physiological, it may be an act of neglect or an omission to act, or it may occur when a vulnerable person is persuaded to enter into financial or sexual transactions to which he or she has not consented or cannot consent.
3. Abuse can occur in any relationship and may result in significant harm to, or exploitation of the person subject to it.
4. It is important to remember that abuse is defined by the impact on the individual not the intention of the abuser, in other words if someone does not have their needs cared for, this can be just as damaging whether it is done deliberately or because a carer can no longer manage. Obviously the way of then supporting the situation would be likely to be different.

Types of Abuse:

Abuse may include one or more of the following –

- Physical abuse, hitting, slapping, punching, burning
- Sexual abuse, rape, indecent assault, inappropriate touching
- Emotional abuse, belittling, name calling
- Financial or material abuse, stealing, selling assets
- Neglect and acts of omission, leaving in soiled clothes, failing to feed properly
- Discriminatory abuse (including racist, sexist, based on a person's disability and other forms of harassment)
- Institutional

The Community Centre Management Committee will seek to safeguard children and vulnerable adults by ensuring that:

1. no trustee, helper or other volunteer or staff will have unsupervised access to children or vulnerable adults unless they have attended the Child Protection Foundation Training or Adult Protection Awareness Training run by Powys County Council or similar training event.
2. all suspicions or allegations of abuse against a child or vulnerable adult will be taken seriously and dealt with speedily and appropriately.
3. all staff and volunteers are aware of this policy and offered introductory training.
4. there is a nominated and named Vulnerable Users Officer to whom any suspicions or concerns can be reported. This person is
5. the management committee will endeavour to keep the premises safe for use by children and vulnerable adults. The committee recognises that a higher standard of safety is required where use is made by small children, those who cannot read safety notices and physically disabled adults.
6. no trustees, community centre staff, outside contractors, hirers or volunteers will have unsupervised access to children or vulnerable adults unless in possession of appropriate clearance such as Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS)
7. all hirers working with children or vulnerable adults on a regular basis are required to have an approved child protection policy.
8. all hirers/users of the Community Centre are aware and accept this policy as part of the agreed contract when hiring the Centre and that any safeguarding of children or vulnerable adults is the responsibility of the hirers.
9. occasional hirers eg. for children's parties do not require their own approved policy but will need to observe the requirements of this policy.
10. hirers are aware of their obligations under the Licensing Act 2003 to ensure that alcohol is not sold to those under the age of 18 years. The committee will ensure that hirers are aware that children may not be admitted to films when they are below the age classification for the film, or show. No gambling or entertainment of an adult sexual nature shall be permitted on the premises.
11. these policies and procedures will be reviewed annually and updated as appropriate in the interim periods.

The Community Centre Management Committee is committed to high standards in safeguarding the welfare of children and vulnerable adults. It has no statutory remit or role to investigate abuse of children or vulnerable adults but acknowledges a responsibility to pass on to the appropriate statutory agency concerns in relation to the safety or welfare of an individual so that these concerns can be assessed.

**ACCESS TO POWYS TEACHING HEALTH BOARD SAFEGUARDING
TEAM**

Telephone: 01686 617443

Email: PowysTHB.safeguarding@wales.nhs.uk

Available Monday to Friday 9.00am – 5.00pm

Out of hours contact –

Social Services 08457 573818

Or Powys People Direct 01597 827666

Or Dyfed Powys Police 101

Brecon War Memorial Hospital – 01874 622443

Nevill Hall Hospital, Abergavenny – 01873 732732