



Community Voluntary Service Information Sheet

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Safeguarding for community centres and other community buildings

If your organisation doesn't work with children or vulnerable adults, you don't need a Safeguarding Policy. However, if you hire your premises to organisations that do, it's good practice to make sure those groups are taking care of their safeguarding responsibilities.

Below is an example Safeguarding Statement that you could:

- Include in your hire agreement or terms and conditions
 - Display in your building
 - Put on your website
 - Give to all organisations that work with children or vulnerable adults in your building
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EXAMPLE Safeguarding Statement

[Name of organisation] is a local charity that operates [name of venue] for the local community to use and hires out the premises to other organisations and individuals. [Name of organisation] is committed to safeguarding the fundamental right of children, young people and vulnerable adults to be protected from harm.

Hirers must ensure that they take all reasonable steps possible to ensure that the activity they operate under their hire agreement at [name of venue] is conducted in such a way that children, young people and vulnerable adults are kept safe from abuse. Hirers must ensure that their safeguarding procedures and knowledge are up to date. Organisations working with children, young people and vulnerable adults who hire [name of venue] will be asked to sign a declaration that they have an appropriate safeguarding policy in place. This must include:

- a process for reporting any suspected incident, allegation or other manifestation relating to child and vulnerable adult protection
- appropriate DBS checking for qualifying staff and volunteers

Any club, society, organisation or individual working with children, young people and/or vulnerable adults that does not operate under an appropriate safeguarding policy will be refused permission to hire [name of venue]. Any club, society, organisation or individual working with children, young people and/or vulnerable adults may be subject to random spot checks to ensure a policy has been implemented.

The safety and protection of all vulnerable people at [name of venue] is paramount and has priority over all other interests, unless life is at imminent risk.

Strengthening local social action