



Safeguarding Policy

Oakley Community Association (OCA) believes that it is always unacceptable for any person to experience abuse of any kind and recognises its' responsibility to safeguard the welfare of all, by a commitment to practice which protects them.

We recognise that:

the welfare of all is paramount. Everyone regardless of gender, marital status, race, ethnic origin, nationality, national origin, disability, sexual orientation, religion or age, has the right to equal protection from all types of harm or abuse
working in partnership with all stakeholders is essential in promoting welfare

The purpose of the policy is:

to provide protection for all who participate in events organised by Oakley Community Association
to provide volunteers with guidance should they suspect someone may be experiencing, or be at risk of, harm.

This policy applies to all trustees, volunteers and those using services provided by Oakley Community Association.

We will seek to safeguard children, young people and vulnerable adults by:

valuing them, listening to and respecting them
recruiting trustees safely, in line with Charity Commission guidelines
ensuring that activities are designed so that no one individual trustee or volunteer is left responsible for children or vulnerable adults
sharing this policy with volunteers and service users
ensuring all volunteers engaging in a OCA activity are aware of the need to report any concerns by phone immediately to a named OCA trustee. The trustee should then contact the Chair and/or the Secretary to jointly agree the next course of action.; ensuring a full record of the allegation is made without delay
sharing information about concerns with agencies who need to know and taking their advice on the next steps
providing effective management for trustees and volunteers through supervision, support and training

We are committed to reviewing our policy and good practice every three years unless relevant statutes change at lesser intervals.

Agreed at OCA trustees' meeting 19 April 2018

Reviewed and agreed at trustees' meeting 23 July 2020

Reviewed and approved at trustees' meeting 22 June 2023