

The Leamington Society: Safeguarding Policy

Issue 1: 18-09-23

Policy Statement:

The Leamington Society is committed to creating a safe and inclusive environment for all individuals involved in its activities and events. This safeguarding policy outlines the organization's commitment to safeguarding and provides guidelines and procedures to ensure the welfare and protection of children, young people, and vulnerable adults.

Scope:

This policy applies to all members, volunteers, and participants associated with The Leamington Society. It covers the identification, assessment, mitigation, and monitoring of children, young people, and vulnerable adults across all areas of The Leamington Society's activities. Note: The Leamington Society does not have any employees.

1. Definitions:

1. Child: A person under the age of 18.
- 1.2. Young person: A person aged between 18 and 25.
- 1.3. Vulnerable adult: An individual who may be at risk of harm due to their age, physical or mental health, or disability.

2. Safeguarding Principles

The Leamington Society is guided by the following principles in safeguarding its members, participants and volunteers:

- 2.1. Putting the welfare and safety of individuals first.
- 2.2. Promoting an open and supportive culture where concerns are taken seriously.
- 2.3. Ensuring appropriate situational awareness by members and volunteers.
- 2.4. Collaborating when appropriate with relevant external agencies to address safeguarding issues.

3. Risk Assessment (see also Risk Assessment Policy and Analysis Matrix):

The Leamington Society will:

- 3.1 Conduct risk assessments to identify and mitigate potential safeguarding risks. ensure appropriate action in response to safeguarding concerns or allegations.

4. Designated Safeguarding Point of Contact (DPC)

- 4.1 The Chair person (or in their absence a member of the committee of the Leamington Society) will be the main point of contact for safeguarding concerns or disclosures.
- 4.2 DPC Receives and responds to safeguarding concerns promptly and appropriately.
- 4.3 DPC Liaises with relevant external agencies as necessary.
- 4.4 DPC Keeps records of safeguarding concerns, actions taken, and outcomes.
- 4.5 DPC Provides support and guidance to staff, volunteers, and members regarding safeguarding matters.

5. Members, Participants and Volunteers:

5.1. Will be encouraged report any concerns, suspicions, or disclosures regarding safeguarding issues to the DPC - or in their absence a member of the committee of the Leamington Society

5.2. Will be encouraged to treat all individuals with respect and maintain appropriate professional boundaries.

5. Reporting Safeguarding Concerns

6.1 Any safeguarding concerns, suspicions, or disclosures should be reported to the DPC point of contact immediately.

6.2. The DPC will assess the concern and, if necessary, report it to the relevant authorities or agencies.

6.3. Confidentiality will be maintained, except where sharing information is necessary to protect the welfare of an individual.

6. Review and Monitoring

This safeguarding policy and procedures will be reviewed annually, or more frequently if required, to ensure their effectiveness and compliance with legal and regulatory requirements. Any updates or changes will be communicated to members participants and volunteers.

Effective Date:

This policy is effective from 18th September 2023 It replaces any previous risk management policies or guidelines and remains in effect until further notice or revision.

The Leamington Society