Bedgrove Residents & Community Association
Registered Charity no. 1010279

Safeguarding Policy

Introduction and purpose
This policy sets out how the BEDGROVE RESIDENTS & COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION operates to keep adults at risk of abuse or neglect and children safe from abuse. The policy is about stopping abuse where it is happening and preventing abuse where there is a risk that it may occur.

We have a Duty of Care to our volunteers and service users. We are committed to the protection and safety of adults at risk and children whether they are volunteers and/or participants in our activities. We will protect and support the volunteers who work with us as well as users of our services.

This policy, and the practices within it, are based on the relevant legislation and government guidance, including:
The Safeguarding Vulnerable Groups Act 2006.
The Care Act 2014
The Mental Capacity Act 2005
The Children Act 1989 and 2004
The Human Rights Act 1998

Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility. For our safeguarding policy to be effective every volunteer, and staff member who supports us whatever their role, will play their part in keeping people safe.

This policy will apply to all staff, contractors and volunteers and will be used to support their work.

Persons affected by this policy
All volunteers (Staff)
All service users
All visitors and contractors

Definitions
Definition of an adult at risk:
Aged 18 years or over who may be in need of community care services by reason of mental or other disability, age or illness; and who is or may be unable to take care of him or herself, or unable to protect him or herself against significant harm or exploitation.
Children and young people are defined as those persons aged under 18 years old.

Our Policy
- The BEDGROVE RESIDENTS & COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION has a zero-tolerance approach to abuse.
- There are no excuses for not taking all reasonable action to protect adults at risk and children from abuse, exploitation, radicalisation and mistreatment.
- The BEDGROVE RESIDENTS & COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION 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 is committed to promoting wellbeing, harm prevention and to responding effectively if concerns are raised.

- The welfare of the child and/ or adult at risk is paramount and all adults have the right to protection from abuse.
- We are committed to working with appropriate agencies including Buckinghamshire Council Safeguarding Teams and the police etc. to ensure the reporting of abuse is appropriate and in line with local, national and Charity Commission requirements and Information Sharing guidance.
- We will create an environment where volunteers and staff feel able to raise safeguarding concerns and feel supported with their safeguarding responsibilities.
- All volunteers and staff are required to report any suspected abuse and be aware of the appropriate reporting and support procedure for safeguarding including the reporting of people at risk of radicalisation and extremism.
- All volunteers and staff who come into contact with adults at risk of abuse, and children and their families as part of their BEDGROVE RESIDENTS & COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION duties will be alert to possible signs of abuse and consider whether there may be safeguarding concerns. They will discuss their concerns with the Designated Safeguarding Lead, to get appropriate support.
- The Designated Safeguarding Lead for BEDGROVE RESIDENTS & COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION will fulfil their safeguarding responsibilities in a way that ensures that adults and children are safeguarded from harm. The Safeguarding Lead is responsible for following up and reporting any suspected reports of abuse.

FLOWCHART FOR REFERRAL FOR ACTUAL OR SUSPECTED ABUSE

See it. Recognise it. Report it. If the matter is urgent because a child or adult at risk of harm is in immediate danger phone 999 for the Police.

See it.

Are they safe? If you are concerned about a child or adult at risk of harm, you could help stop abuse if you follow the safeguarding policy and procedure.

It is not your responsibility to decide if abuse has happened. It IS your responsibility to report it to the Safeguarding Lead and/or appropriate authority.

Recognise it.

Share your concerns/information with the Safeguarding Lead or other committee member.

If there is immediate danger to the child or Adult at Risk call 999 for the Police.

Report it.

Buckinghamshire Council Safeguarding referral: 01296 383962 between 9am to 5.30pm Monday to Thursday, 9am to 5pm Friday.

If you need an urgent response outside of these hours, contact the Emergency Duty Team (EDT) on 0800 999 7677.

Or online:

www.buckssafeguarding.org.uk/childrenpartnership/reporting-a-concern/report-a-concern/

Safeguarding Lead: tel. JULIE EDWARDS 07733 396612 email: safeguarding@bedgrove.org.uk

This policy was adopted at a meeting of Bedgrove Residents & Community Association on 8th August 2023 and will be reviewed at least every 2 years.

Signed:……M BROAD……Position……CHAIR

Signed:……J CHEEK……Position……TREASURER

Date that next review is due: 8th August 2025