
Bryher Community Centre Safeguarding Policy

1. Purpose

Bryher Community Centre (BCC) is committed to ensuring that our premises provide a safe and welcoming environment for all who use them. While BCC itself does not provide direct services to children, young people, or vulnerable adults, we recognise our responsibility to promote a safeguarding culture and to respond appropriately to any concerns raised within our setting.

As a community facility, we do not appoint a Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL). Instead, all organisations, groups, and individuals hiring or using the Centre are required to have their own safeguarding policies, procedures, and named safeguarding leads in place. It is the responsibility of each user group to ensure that their staff, volunteers, and participants are safeguarded in line with statutory requirements and best practice.

Responsibility for the safety of children and vulnerable adults and their activity's rests with the hirer. All individuals / groups hiring the hall, who work with children or vulnerable adults must have their own, adequate, safeguarding and child protection policy for the trustee's review before the hire commences.

However, where BCC holds its own events that include children and vulnerable adults as participants, although responsibility for general safety remains with parents and/or guardians, we remain committed to ensuring all parties are safeguarded, and any concerns that arise will be reported through the channels laid out in this policy.

This policy sets out how Bryher Community Centre protects children, young people, and adults at risk who engage with services, activities, or facilities in the centre. It also provides guidance for trustees and volunteers.

2. Scope

This policy applies to:

- Trustees, contractors, and volunteers.
- Groups and organisations hiring or using the centre.
- All visitors, including children, young people, and adults at risk.

3. Safeguarding Principles

- Zero tolerance of abuse – we will act on concerns promptly and appropriately.
- Shared responsibility – safeguarding is everyone's duty.
- Empowerment – individuals will be supported to make informed decisions about their safety.
- Proportionality – actions taken will be appropriate to the risk.
- Partnership – we work with statutory agencies and local organisations.

4. Centre Users and Hirers

- All groups and organisations using the community centre must have their own safeguarding policy and procedures if they work with children, young people, or adults at risk.
- They are responsible for:
 - Ensuring their staff, leaders, or volunteers are appropriately recruited, trained, and DBS-checked where necessary.
 - Implementing and following their own safeguarding policies during their activities.
 - Providing a copy of their safeguarding policy to the community centre when hiring or renewing hire agreements when requested.
 - Informing trustees where safeguarding incidents may have occurred within the community centre.
- The centre trustees are not responsible for the delivery, supervision, or safeguarding arrangements of external groups, but safeguarding concerns that arise may still be reported to the relevant parties, including ensuring safeguarding incidents have potentially occurred within the building have been dealt with appropriately.

5. Safeguarding Procedures

5.1 Reporting Concerns

What to Report

A safeguarding concern is for situations where a child or adult is experiencing, or is at risk of, abuse or neglect and is unable to protect themselves. Abuse can take various forms, including:

Physical abuse, sexual abuse, psychological abuse, financial abuse, neglect, discriminatory abuse, institutional abuse, and domestic violence.

- Concerns must be reported immediately to the relevant authorities (listed below).
- In an emergency, dial 999.
- If you think a child or young person is at risk of significant harm, or is injured, contact: **0300 123 1116**, multiagencyreferralunit@cornwall.gov.uk, or complete an online referral (<https://www.cornwall.gov.uk/health-and-social-care/childrens-services/child-protection-and-safeguarding/>) - Multi-Agency Referral Unit (MARU) Cornwall,

Standard working hours:

Monday to Thursday from 8.45am to 5.15pm

Friday from 8.45am to 4.45pm.

01208 251300 - Out of hours social work service:

Weekdays from 5.15pm (4.45pm Fridays) until 8.45pm,

Weekends and all public holidays

Adult Safeguarding Team – How to Report a Concern

- **Non-Emergency:** Call Isles of Scilly Adult Social Care Team on 01720 424 470
- **Out of Hours** (5pm -9am): Call the Emergency Duty Service at 01720 422699
- **Immediate Danger:** Dial 999 for emergency services.

5.2 External Groups and Centre Users

- Any group that fails to provide evidence of a safeguarding policy may be refused use of the centre.
- Where concerns are raised about a group's safeguarding practices, trustees may review or withdraw permission to hire facilities.

6. Code of Conduct

All Trustees, Contractors, volunteers, and centre users must:

- Treat everyone with respect and dignity.
- Avoid one-to-one situations with children or adults at risk unless unavoidable and risk assessed.
- Maintain professional boundaries at all times.

7. Confidentiality and Record Keeping

- Safeguarding records will be stored securely and shared only on a need-to-know basis.
- GDPR and safeguarding law will be followed.

8. Monitoring and Review

This policy will be:

- Reviewed during each AGM.
- Updated to reflect changes in legislation or best practice.
- Shared with all Trustees and made available to centre users.

9. Whistleblowing

We are committed to ensuring that all our activities are conducted safely and with integrity. Any person (including staff, volunteers, service users, or members of the public) who has a concern about the behaviour or practice of anyone involved with the centre should report it to:

- The Chair, Vice Chair or Trustee
- Local Authority Designated Officer
 - lado@cornwall.gov.uk
 - <https://www.cornwall.gov.uk/health-and-social-care/childrens-services/child-protection-and-safeguarding/allegations-against-people-who-work-with-children/lado-referral-form-guidance/>
- The Charity Commission (see below)
- or for serious concerns The Police and NSPCC Whistleblowing Helpline (0800 028 0285).

9.1 Allegations Against Trustees or Volunteers

- Allegations against any of the advice must be reported to The Charity Commission via their website:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/updated-guide-to-raising-concerns-about-a-charity>

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/report-serious-wrongdoing-at-a-charity-as-a-worker-or-volunteer>

- Or via email: whistleblowing@charitycommission.gov.uk

10. Key Contacts

Bryher Community Centre

Bryher, Isles of Scilly, TR23 0PR

Registered Charity 1131466.

Booking Secretary:

Louise Searle Email:

bryhercommunitycentre@outlook.com

<https://bryher->

[islesofscilly.co.uk/bryhercommunity-](https://bryher-islesofscilly.co.uk/bryhercommunity-)

[centre](https://bryher-islesofscilly.co.uk/bryhercommunity-centre)

