

South Hampshire Reform Jewish Community

Protection Policy for children and vulnerable adults (Safeguarding Policy)

Guiding Principles

The welfare of the child or vulnerable adult is paramount and is the responsibility of everyone in the South Hampshire Reform Jewish Community (SHRJC). All children and vulnerable adults, without exception, have the right to protection from abuse, whether physical, verbal, sexual, bullying, exclusion or neglect. Bullying, shouting physical violence, sexism and racism towards children will not be permitted or tolerated.

This policy is in place to protect all vulnerable persons regardless of gender, ethnicity, disability, sexuality, religion or faith.

The SHRJC Council and members have a duty to safeguard vulnerable users of its activities and those who may come into contact with vulnerable users. They should respond to any concerns they may have regarding the physical, sexual, emotional or psychological safety of a vulnerable person or concerns relating to discriminatory or financial violation or exploitation of a vulnerable person.

1. Policy

No member of the SHRJC or its members will have unsupervised access to children or vulnerable adults unless appropriately vetted.

Procedure

All Council and general members of the SHRJC will be made aware of this policy and the relevant vetting procedures. All must ensure that any activities for children, young people and other vulnerable adults are only provided by fit and proper persons in accordance with the Safeguarding Vulnerable Groups Act 2006 and any subsequent legislation.

The Chair of the SHRJC is the **appointed person** and is responsible for child and vulnerable adult protection matters. This person will have responsibility for reporting concerns that arise, as a matter of urgency, to relevant protection agency. All suspicions or allegations of abuse against a child or vulnerable adult will be taken seriously and dealt with speedily and appropriately.

Procedure

The appointed person will:

- Know who to contact at the local authority.
- Know who to contact in Social Services for advice and referrals.
- Know about helplines and other sources of help for children and young people and vulnerable adults.
- Ensure an environment that has the opportunity to raise any child protection or vulnerable adult protection concerns.

All Council members of the SHRJC are required to become aware of the issues surrounding children and vulnerable adults and appropriate training for Council members will be encouraged.

Review

The policies and procedures will be regularly reviewed. An annual review will take place following the AGM to allow for any required up-date of policies and or procedures. New Council members will be provided with an understanding of their responsibilities in matters of protection for children and vulnerable adults.

[Safeguarding Policy of SHRJC Approved by its Council on 17 August 2020. This Safeguarding Policy is based on the policy of Action With Communities in Rural England. As a constituent member of the Movement for Reform Judaism UK, the SHRJC adheres to its general Safeguarding Policies which can be accessed through <https://reformjewshampshire.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2022/08/South-Hampshire-Reform-Jewish-Community-Safeguarding-Policy.docx>