



Romsey Agricultural and Horse Show Society

1. Introduction and aims of this policy

- 1.1 All Staff and volunteers of The Show have a duty of safeguarding children and vulnerable adults.
- 1.2 This policy promotes good practice in safeguarding for those attending the show or society events.

2. Definitions

2.1 Children - Anyone under the age of 18 years

2.2 Vulnerable Adult - Those over the age of 18 years and who are or may be:

- Unable to care for themselves
- Unable to protect themselves from significant harm or exploitation
- In need of community care services by reasons of mental health or other disability, age or illness

2.3 Safeguarding

- Protecting children and vulnerable adults from maltreatment
- Preventing impairment of children and vulnerable adult's health or development
- Ensuring children and vulnerable adults are growing up and living in circumstances consistent with safe and effective care
- Enabling children and young people to have optimum life chances and to enter adulthood successfully

3. To whom this policy applies

3.1 This policy applies to anyone working for or on behalf of the show/society whether in a paid, voluntary or commissioned capacity, for example contracted to do a piece of work.

4. Principles

4.1 The welfare of children and vulnerable adults is everyone's responsibility, particularly when it comes to protecting them from abuse. Children and vulnerable adults have a lot to gain from recreation and leisure. The policy is based on the following principles:

- The welfare of children and vulnerable adults is the primary concern.



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- All children and vulnerable adults whatever their age, culture, disability, gender, language, racial origin, socio-economic status, religious belief and/or sexual identity have the right to protection from abuse.
- It is everyone's responsibility to report any concerns about abuse to the Show Secretary in the first instance. If the Show Secretary is unavailable, then to whoever is deputising from him/her at the time.
- All incidents of alleged poor practice, misconduct and abuse will be taken seriously and responded to swiftly and appropriately.
- Any personal data will be processed in accordance with the requirements of the Data Protection Act 2018 aka General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR).

5. Review

5.1 This policy and procedure will be regularly monitored and reviewed:

- In accordance with changes in legislation and guidance on the protection of children and vulnerable adults or any changes within the show/society. Examples include the possibility of a change in legislation where staff and volunteers may be required to undergo DBS checks. (Disclosure and Barring Service).
- Following any issues or concerns raised about the protection of children or vulnerable adults within the show/society.
- In all other circumstances, at least annually.

6. Promoting a safe environment

6.1 All staff and volunteers recognise that in order to promote a safe environment for children and vulnerable adults the show/society will need to:

- Promote the health and welfare of children and vulnerable adults by the provision of facilities in which they can take part in leisure and recreation safely.
- Respect and promote the rights, wishes and feelings of children and vulnerable adults.
- Promote and implement appropriate procedures to safeguard the well-being of children and vulnerable adults and promote them from abuse.
- Recruit, train, support and supervise its members to adapt best practice to safeguard and protect children and vulnerable adults from abuse and to minimise risk to themselves.
- Requires the show/society to adopt and abide by this Child Protection Policy.
- Require all organisations attending the show, which have contact with children and vulnerable adults to have a Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy.



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- Respond to any allegations of misconduct or abuse of children and vulnerable adults in line with this policy as well as implementing, where appropriate, the relevant disciplinary and appeals procedures.
- Provide safe facilities and do regular safety assessments.
- Ensure that staff and volunteers are aware of the safeguarding expectations.

7. Allegations against staff and volunteers

- 7.1 All staff and volunteers should take care not to place themselves in a potentially misunderstood position with a child or vulnerable adult. It is advisable for interaction with individual children and vulnerable adults or parents to be conducted in view of other adults.
- 7.2 If an allegation is made against a member of staff or volunteer, the person receiving the allegation will immediately inform the Show Secretary or the most senior staff member available.
- 7.3 If the allegation made to a member of staff concerns the lead volunteer, the recipient of the allegation will immediately inform the Show Secretary.

8. Whistleblowing

- 8.1 All staff and volunteers should be aware of their duty to raise concerns about the attitude or actions of colleagues. See the shows / societies general purpose Whistle Blowing Policy.

9. What should be a cause for concern?

- 9.1 Staff and volunteers should be concerned by any action or inaction, which significantly harms the physical and / or emotional development of a child. Abuse falls into four main categories and can include child sexual exploitation and female genital mutilation:
- Physical abuse
 - Emotional abuse
 - Sexual abuse
 - Neglect
- 9.2 All staff and volunteers coming into contact with children and vulnerable adults need to have an awareness of safeguarding.