

THE ASKETT SOCIETY

CHILD PROTECTION AND SAFEGUARDING POLICY

Date:

The purpose of this policy:

* To protect children and vulnerable people who participate in any family events or activities organised by The Askett Society, including the children of adults participating in any such events or activities.

The terms:

- Child and young person are interchangeable in this policy and apply to anyone who has not reached their 18th birthday.
- A vulnerable person is defined as a person less able to take care of themselves or protect themselves from exploitation.

* To provide committee members and other volunteers involved with any such events or activities with the overarching principles that guide our approach to child protection and safeguarding of vulnerable people.

* To introduce / appoint a Designated Safeguarding Officer (DSO) who will act as a lead for the safeguarding of children / the vulnerable.

This policy applies to:

Anyone acting on behalf of The Askett Society including Committee Members, informal Sub-Committee Members and other volunteers appointed by the committee, defined as “The Team”, who organise an event on behalf of The Askett Society. It aims to allow “The Team” to make informed and confident responses to specific safeguarding and child protection issues. It will help to maintain professionalism and high standards of practice.

Legal framework

This policy has been drawn up on the basis of legislation, policy and guidance that seeks to protect children and the vulnerable in England.

The Askett Society believe that:

- * Children / vulnerable people should never experience abuse of any kind;
- * “The Team” has a responsibility to promote the welfare of all children and vulnerable people, to keep them safe and to act in a way that protects them.

The Askett Society recognise that:

- * the welfare of the child / vulnerable person is paramount;
- * all children / vulnerable persons regardless of age, gender, disability, gender reassignment, race, religion or belief, sex, or sexual orientation, have a right to equal protection from all types of abuse;

* some children / vulnerable persons are additionally vulnerable because of the impact of previous experiences, their level of dependency, communication needs or other issues;

* acting in partnership with children, young people, their parents, family members, carers and other agencies is essential in promoting young people's welfare.

The Askett Committee will:

* ensure safeguarding children / the vulnerable is the top priority at the Society and embedded into all practices;

* appoint a Safeguarding Lead;

* disseminate safeguarding information to "The Team" who organise an event on behalf of The Askett Society;

* provide support and training to "The Team" involved with organising events by providing a copy of this policy and inviting event organisers to sign. All signed copies to be retained by the Designated Safeguarding Officer.

* reinforce with The Team / event organisers, no one to one contact. And deal with all allegations and make decisions within agreed timescales of any cases. Ensure all cases of poor practice that may be abuse and any allegations of abuse are investigated and where appropriate, referred to statutory agencies.

* ensure the following is included in all communications about events the following strict policy:

No child / vulnerable person may participate in any events or activities organised by or through The Askett Society unless accompanied by his or her parent, family member, guardian or carer throughout the duration of any such event or activity;

* monitor and evaluate the implementation of this Policy on a yearly basis.

The Askett Society will:

* provide a safe physical environment for all families including all children, vulnerable people and volunteers;

* listen to any child or vulnerable person who expresses a wish to speak about a matter of concern, which must be done in an open environment (e.g. avoiding private or unobserved situations);

* maintain a strict policy of no photos, recording or storing of information about any child or young person, unless authorised by their family member or their carer;

* use social media appropriately and follow this policy as stated above;

* maintain a strict policy of having no one-to-one contact between person and any child or vulnerable person participating in any event or activity organised by or through The Askett Society, unless such person is their parent, guardian or carer.

* report if during the course of any family event or activity organised by or through The Askett Society, has reason to suspect that a child or vulnerable person is being harmed or is likely to be, referring this concern immediately to Asketts designated safeguarding officer or local authority children's social care department.

NSPCC (National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children)

Helpline 0808 800 5000

A summary of the key legislation is available from nspcc.org.uk/learning.

Report a concern about an adult: buckssafeguarding.org.uk

Contact details

Volunteer Designated Safeguarding Officer and lead for safeguarding:

Name: Phone: Date:

Email:

Askett Society Volunteer holding a DBS enhanced:

Name: Phone: Date:

Name: Phone: Date:

* Where an enhanced DBS check its not obtained by The Askett Society, that you ensure that such people are under the direct supervision and in the presence of someone who has been the subject of an "Enhanced DBS" (Disclosure and Barring Service). Named below.

Name: Phone: Date:

Volunteer Askett Event Organisers:

Name: Signature: Date:

Name: Signature: Date:

Name: Signature: Date:

Name: Signature: Date:

