

# **Musical Walkabout CIC - Safeguarding Vulnerable Adults**

This document should be read in tandem with the “MW Privacy Policy” for information on the data protection of our participants.

## **Introduction**

We all have a responsibility to safeguard adults who are experiencing, or are at risk of, abuse and neglect.

This policy and its procedures outline what adult safeguarding is, and what to do if you have a concern.

## **Policy Statement**

Musical Walkabout CIC is committed to creating and maintaining a safe and positive environment for all people involved in our musical sessions. It accepts its responsibility to assist in the welfare of all participants, and to safeguard them from poor practice, abuse and bullying.

All individuals within the organisation - musical practitioners/volunteers/support staff - have a role and responsibility to help ensure the safety and wellbeing of vulnerable adults participating in our services.

This organisation accepts that we are required to fulfill our duty of care, which means that we must do everything that can be reasonably expected of us to help safeguard and protect people from harm, and to act when we suspect someone is being harmed, or is at risk of harm.

## **What is adult safeguarding?**

The official definition of ‘adult safeguarding’ is working with adults with care and support needs to keep them safe from abuse or neglect. It is an important part of what many public services do, and a key responsibility of local authorities (Care Act 2014).

The safeguarding duties apply to an adult who:

- Has needs for care or support (whether or not the local authority is meeting any of those needs)
- Is experiencing, or is at risk of, abuse or neglect
- Is unable to protect themselves from either the risk of, or the experience of, abuse or neglect, as a result of those care and support needs

Adults who fulfil this criteria are 'adults at risk'.

People can have a need for care and support for a variety of reasons – for example they may have a learning disability, a physical disability, a chronic health condition or have a mental health issue. Such conditions may bring with them additional vulnerabilities, however having care and support needs does not mean that people are automatically adults at risk and need safeguarding.

Safeguarding adults is underpinned by:

- The Care Act 2014
- Mental Capacity Act (MCA) 2005

Types of abuse suffered by adults identified in the Care Act 2014 are:

- Physical
- Sexual
- Psychological/Emotional/Mental
- Financial and material
- Neglect and act of omission
- Discriminatory
- Organisational
- Modern Day Slavery
- Domestic Violence
- Self Neglect – including hoarding

Other types of harm that adults may experience include:

- Cyber Bullying
- Forced Marriage
- Female Genital Mutilation
- Hate Crime
- Radicalisation

### **Safe recruitment and safeguarding training**

We want to make sure that volunteers and staff of Musical Walkabout CIC have the right skills and qualities to create a safe environment. All staff and volunteers will be subject to safe recruitment procedures and will also be updated with any relevant legislation, policies and procedural changes. Appropriate training will also be identified and offered, including safeguarding adults training and dementia training.

### **Communication**

The organisation will make available its Safeguarding Vulnerable Adults Policy to all staff, volunteers, members and partner organisations.

### **What to do if you have concerns about an adult member**

Organisation members, staff and volunteers are not expected to be an expert in recognition of a safeguarding concern; however, all adults working, volunteering and participating have a duty of care to be vigilant and respond appropriately to suspicions of poor practice, abuse or bullying. They should also respond to any indication of abuse that may be occurring outside of the organisation setting.

This does not mean that it is your responsibility to decide if a situation is poor practice, abuse or bullying, but it is your responsibility to report your concerns to the Registered Manager or Deputy Manager.

If you cannot contact someone within the organisation or feel that your concerns are not being dealt with properly you can contact Kent and Medway Safeguarding Adults Board (SAB), or ACT, the national safeguarding adults organisation

[www.anncrafttrust.org](http://www.anncrafttrust.org)

## FURTHER INFORMATION

The six key principals underpinning adult safeguarding are;

**Empowerment** - People being supported and encouraged to make their own decisions and informed consent. “I am asked what I want as the outcomes from the safeguarding process and these directly inform what happens”

**Prevention** - It is better to take action before harm occurs. “I receive clear and simple information about what abuse is, how to recognise the signs and what I can do to seek help”

**Proportionality** - The least intrusive response appropriate to the risk presented. “I am sure that the professionals will work in my interest, as I see them and they will only get involved as much as needed.”

**Protection** - Support and representation for those in greatest need. “I get help and support to report abuse and neglect. I get help so that I am able to take part in the safeguarding process to the extent to which I want.”

**Partnership** - local solutions through services working with their communities. Communities have a part to play in preventing, detecting and reporting neglect and abuse. “I know that staff treat any personal and sensitive information in confidence, only sharing what is helpful and necessary. I am confident that professionals will work together and with me to get the best result for me”

**Accountability** - Accountability and transparency in delivering safeguarding. “I understand the role of everyone involved in my life and so do they.”

## CONTACT

Please contact Musical Walkabout CIC Founder Nina Clark directly for any matters relating to safeguarding.

Email address: [nina@musicalwalkabout.com](mailto:nina@musicalwalkabout.com)