

ROYAL SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE SOCIETY - BRISTOL

Registered Charity No. 1059608 website: www.rscdsbristol.info

Safeguarding Vulnerable People Policy

Bristol RSCDS fully recognises its responsibilities for safeguarding children and vulnerable adults. The normal organisation of Bristol RSCDS classes and dances, in large mixed groups, and the absence of residential activities which include children and vulnerable adults, leads to an inherently low risk of abuse arising. Nevertheless low risk is not the same as no risk, and although there is currently no legal requirement for us to have a Safeguarding Policy, we feel that it is a matter of good practice to have and to follow such a policy.

Policy statement

The RSCDS policy is to foster inclusion and to ensure that any 'vulnerable people' (children, young people or adults), are protected and kept safe from harm whilst they are with members of the RSCDS, for example, attending events or classes run by the RSCDS/RSCDSmembers.

When Bristol RSCDS members engage with vulnerable people it will be mandatory that:

- All members working with or having unsupervised access to 'vulnerable people' should hold the appropriate level of legal checks required. This is determined by the code of practice issued under section 122(2) of the Police Act 1997 requiring [Disclosure and Barring Service](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/disclosure-and-barring-service) (DBS) checks (For England and Wales the information is at <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/dbs-check-requests-guidance-foremployers#the-code-of-practice>).
- All relevant members will have access to advice and support through the Membership Secretary to help them to understand and fulfil their role where this involves vulnerable people. The Membership Secretary will take a lead role in liaising with the local officials holding responsibility for Safeguarding policy, procedures and practice, to understand how the procedures work locally (e.g. who to contact in an emergency) and to access useful training and support.
- Activities will take place in a safe and secure environment, which has been risk assessed as appropriate to the participating group and activity
- Appropriate action will be taken in response to any concerns about abuse/ allegations of abuse with procedures for members to follow and appropriate forms for them to complete in the event of concerns being raised about abuse/allegations of abuse.
- All relevant members/volunteers will be informed and supported in implementing good practice.

Date Adopted: 10 January 2018

Definitions

For the purpose of this document (and as specified by The Police Act 1997 (Enhanced Criminal Record Certificates) (Protection of Vulnerable Adults) Regulations 2002:

A child is a person under the age of 18, and a person may be considered a vulnerable adult if they are 18 years or over and have either a learning or physical disability, a physical or mental illness or drug/alcohol addiction or a reduction in physical or mental capacity which leads to reduced ability to protect themselves from assault, abuse or neglect.

Document Review

Our policy for regular review is to maintain a separate document detailing:

- Review timing requirements
- Each of our policies and the date it was adopted
- The date each policy was last reviewed.

This policy is supplemented by Guidelines and Procedures which are subject to the same review process.