



SWINDON U3A SAFEGUARDING POLICY.

Introduction:

Swindon U3A follows the Third Age Trust governing body policy of providing equality of opportunity to all members and potential members in their third age, regardless of social standing, language, ethnicity, gender, orientation and educational background. All reasonable efforts will be made to facilitate membership for any adult, defined in The Care Act 2014 as someone:

- who has needs for care and support (whether the local authority is meeting any of those needs or not.)
- who is experiencing, or at risk of, abuse or neglect.
- who, because of those care and support needs, is unable to protect themselves from either the risk of, or the experience of abuse or neglect.

The aims of the guidance are to: stop abuse and neglect where possible, prevent harm and reduce the risk of abuse and neglect, safeguard adults in a way that supports them in making choices and having control about how they want to live, concentrate on improving life for the person concerned, raise public awareness so that communities play a role alongside professionals, provide accessible information and support about how to stay safe and how to raise a concern and address the cause of the abuse and neglect.

Key Principles of the Safeguarding policy.

Everybody has different levels of vulnerability and each of us may be regarded as vulnerable at some time. All members who may be vulnerable have a right to protection from all types of harm or abuse.

In all our activities, we will:

- Value, listen and respect members who may have care or support needs.
- Ensure that all members feel welcomed, respected and safe from abuse.
- Recognise equality amongst people and relationships.
- Do all we can to help members who may be vulnerable, to be and remain active contributors within U3A and if they are or become unable to participate independently, encourage them to bring a companion/carer with them in order that they can continue to enjoy the benefits of U3A membership.
- Ensure all members are aware of their responsibilities to protect others who may be at risk.

All allegations or suspicions of abuse, neglect, harm and poor practice should be reported to the Safeguarding lead (details below) and will be taken seriously and responded to swiftly, fairly and appropriately, following the Policy and Procedures for Safeguarding Adults in Swindon.

“It is everyone’s responsibility to know about and report Abuse and Neglect.” SBC Safeguarding Adults Team.

Safeguarding lead: Gill McKinnon 07990 507979 gmckinnon15@ntlworld.com

References:

U3A Trust Committee Reference File. Section C06 2016

The Care Act 2014

Care and support statutory guidance updated 28 June 2017

Safeguarding for volunteer involving organisations A guide to help you develop a comprehensive approach to safeguarding in your organisation.

Garfield Weston Foundation

Age UK Factsheet 78. Safeguarding older people from abuse and neglect. 2016

Safeguarding Adults in Swindon. Swindon Borough Council 2016

Craven U3A Safeguarding Policy. 2016