

LEYBURN TOWN COUNCIL

CHILDREN AND VULNERABLE ADULTS POLICY for LEYBURN COMMUNITY LIBRARY

Principles

The welfare of children and vulnerable adults is paramount, is a legal requirement and is the responsibility of everyone.

All children and vulnerable adults, without exception, have the right to protection from abuse whether physical, verbal, sexual, bullying, exclusion or neglect. Bullying, shouting, physical violence, sexism and racism towards any volunteer, employee or library user will not be permitted or tolerated.

All volunteers and employees play an important part in promoting the safety and protection of children and vulnerable adults at Leyburn Library. The aim of this policy is to ensure vulnerable adults and young people are protected and kept safe from harm while they are in the library and receiving library services.

Leyburn Town Council (LTC) will work with North Yorkshire County Council (NYCC) to implement this policy where appropriate. The named contact is the Area Librarian.

Policy

1. All staff and volunteers need to be aware of this policy and new volunteers will undertake introductory training. Awareness and information will be included at volunteer events and on notice boards.
2. LTC will endeavour to keep the premises safe for use by children and vulnerable adults. LTC recognises that a higher standard of safety is required where use is made by small children, those who cannot read safety notices and physically disabled adults.
3. No volunteers and employees will have unsupervised access to children or vulnerable adults.
4. All suspicions or allegations of abuse against an individual will be taken seriously and dealt with speedily and appropriately by informing the Town Clerk.

5. Any organisation using or hiring the library for the purposes of holding activities for children and/ or vulnerable adults must have a children/ vulnerable adults' policy and provide a copy to the Town Clerk.
6. No gambling or entertainment of an adult or sexual nature is permitted on the premises.
7. This policy and the procedures will be reviewed every two years and updated as appropriate in the interim periods.

Legal Framework: Children Act 1989, Children Act 2004, Safeguarding Vulnerable Groups Act 2006, Care Act 2014.

Approved on April 2019 Next review date: April 2020 or earlier if required.