



GROUP NAME

Safeguarding Vulnerable Persons Policy V1.1

Introduction

At **GROUP NAME**, we are committed to providing a safe and inclusive environment for all members, including vulnerable persons.

This Child Protection, Safeguarding, and Vulnerable Persons' Policy outlines our commitment to safeguarding the welfare of children and protecting vulnerable persons involved in our **GROUP NAME** activities. We aim to create a culture where everyone feels safe, valued, and protected from harm.

Definitions

For the purpose of this policy document:

Vulnerable Person(s): Includes any adult aged 18 years or above who may be at risk of harm or exploitation due to physical, mental, or emotional challenges.

Designated Safeguarding Officer (DSO)

We have appointed a Designated Welfare / Safeguarding Officer (DSO) who will be responsible for implementing this policy, providing advice and support to **GROUP NAME** members, and liaising with external safeguarding agencies when necessary. The DSO will have appropriate training and knowledge of safeguarding procedures.

Recruitment and Selection

All senior team members who will be working directly with children or vulnerable persons, including volunteers, and officials, will undergo a thorough recruitment process. This process will include:

- Completion of an application form with relevant details, including references and disclosure of any criminal convictions.
- Verification of identity and relevant qualifications or certifications.
- An interview or informal discussion to assess suitability for working with children and vulnerable persons.

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Training and Awareness

We will ensure that all individuals associated with **GROUP NAME** receive appropriate safeguarding training. This will include:

- Induction training for all new members and or volunteers, which will cover safeguarding policies and procedures.
- Ongoing training and updates on safeguarding matters for all relevant individuals.
- Specific training for the Designated Safeguarding Officer to ensure they are up to date with current best practices and legislation.

Reporting and Responding to Concerns

All members, and or volunteers, have a responsibility to report any concerns they may have about the welfare of a child or vulnerable person. Any safeguarding concerns should be reported to the Designated Safeguarding Officer immediately.

Confidentiality

All information related to safeguarding concerns will be treated confidentially and shared only with those who need to know to protect the welfare of the child or vulnerable person. Information will be shared in line with data protection regulations.

Safeguarding Procedures

We will follow the safeguarding procedures as outlined by the relevant local safeguarding authorities. These procedures will include reporting concerns to the appropriate authorities and cooperating fully with any investigations.

Communication and Awareness

We will regularly communicate and promote our safeguarding policy to all **GROUP NAME** members, parents/guardians, and volunteers. We will also display a copy of the policy on any associated social media pages and within venues where the group operates.

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Review and Monitoring

This Child Protection, Safeguarding, and Vulnerable Persons' Policy will be reviewed annually and updated as necessary to reflect changes in legislation and best practices. The policy's effectiveness will be monitored regularly to ensure ongoing compliance.

Conclusion:

By adhering to this Child Protection, Safeguarding, and Vulnerable Persons' Policy, **GROUP NAME** aims to create a safe and secure environment where everyone can participate in pantry activities with confidence and enjoyment.

Safeguarding the welfare of children and vulnerable persons is a collective responsibility, and we are committed to upholding the highest standards of safeguarding and child protection.

Signed:

GROUP NAME - Chairperson

Date:

Signed:

GROUP NAME - Designated Welfare / Safeguarding Officer

Date: