

Greenmount Village Community

Code of Conduct for Volunteers working with Vulnerable Adults and Children

The code of conduct that Greenmount Village Community expects from all our volunteers, which includes trustees, students on work placement and anyone who is undertaking duties for the organisation, whether paid or unpaid. The code of conduct is there to help us protect children, young people and vulnerable adults from abuse. GVC is responsible for making sure everyone taking part in our activities has seen, understood and agreed to follow the code of conduct.

The role of volunteers

In your role at Greenmount Village Community, you are acting in a position of trust and authority and have a duty of care towards the children, young people and adults we work with. You are likely to be seen as a role model by young people and are expected to act appropriately. We expect people who take part in our services to always display appropriate behaviour. This includes behaviour that takes place outside our organisation and behaviour that takes place online.

Our aim is to:

Provide a warm, nurturing environment for vulnerable adults and children whilst avoiding any inappropriate behaviour.

Create an environment where all vulnerable people are encouraged to participate in and contribute to all aspects of group activities.

Share information appropriately.

Respect

- Always respect the vulnerable adult and children all his or her abilities.
- Ask about personal preferences, forms of address, how much help might be needed.
- Ensure his or her individuality - e.g., always use their name.
- Give the same respect as to others.

- Respect differences – e.g., in appearance, ideas, personalities, ability.
- Have a proper conversation using appropriate language – e.g., ask about interests.
- Sometimes it may be necessary to set boundaries for some to ensure the safety of others.
- Obtain specialist advice, when necessary, e.g., on harassment, disability, mental illness, domestic abuse.

Choices

- Respect the choices vulnerable adults and children make, even if they may appear risky.
- Consider whether the vulnerable adult or child has the capacity to make choices and whether safety might require intervention.
- Give vulnerable adults and children the highest level of privacy and confidentiality possible in their circumstances.
- Help in such a way as to maximise a person's independence.
- Give vulnerable adults and children a choice about where they sit, and what activities they participate in, recognising that some people find making choices stressful.
- Ensure that there is clear access to all areas which are available to members of the group.
- Do not assume that someone's level of comprehension matches their verbal communication.

Privacy

- Photographs which appear on our website or other social media, are taken by the nominated person for that event and only when permission has been received by the attendees. Volunteers should avoid posting images of individuals in their care on social media.

Upholding this Code of Conduct

You should always follow this code of conduct and never rely on your reputation or that of our organisation to protect you.



Greenmount Village Community

www.greenmountvillage.org.uk



If you become aware of any breaches of this code, you must report them to David Hanley or Julie Southworth. If necessary, you should follow our whistleblowing procedure and safeguarding and child protection procedures.

Important Contacts:

Designated Lead for Safeguarding

Name: David Hanley

Email address: dahanley100@gmail.com

Telephone number: 07815 558299

Designated Trustee for Safeguarding

Name: Julie Southworth

Email address: chairperson@greenmountvillage.org.uk

Telephone number: 07970 479283