

THE ARTS SOCIETY BISHOP'S STORTFORD

Registered Charity No. 281725
A Member Society of The Arts Society



SAFEGUARDING POLICY - OVERVIEW SUMMARY

**This is an overview of the policy - the full policy is available on TASBS website, or on hard copy from any committee member.
The Committee requests all members to be familiar with this policy.**

Key details of the Policy Statement are given below.

The Arts Society Bishops Stortford (TASBS) recognises that each individual has the right to be treated equitably and without prejudice. Every individual has a responsibility to respect and uphold that right. This means that all members of the Society, volunteers and any other stakeholders have the right to feel comfortable and to be safe and secure in a welcoming and inclusive environment and in particular when attending events or engaging in activities organised by TASBS.

A vulnerable person may be unable to take care of themselves or protect themselves from harm or from being exploited. For instance, this could include a person who is elderly and frail, has a mental or physical illness or learning disability.

A vulnerable person should never experience abuse of any kind. The Society has a duty to ensure the welfare of those who may be at risk. This policy applies to everyone involved in the Society including all members and volunteers. The Committee is the group of persons which is appointed or elected to administer and govern the TASBS in accordance with its constitution. Where a safeguarding concern exists, any member or other person may raise it directly with any member of the Committee.

In the event of a complaint being made to a member of the Committee, there is a responsibility on that Committee member to draw the Committee's attention to the fact that a safeguarding concern has arisen. If the Committee does not feel it has the necessary knowledge or skills appropriately to deal with the concern then they should contact the Chief Executive of The Arts Society.

Definition of Safeguarding

'Safeguarding' is a term used to describe how we protect individuals from abuse or neglect. It is about protecting certain people who may be in vulnerable circumstances. These people may be at risk of abuse or neglect due to the action (or lack of action) of another person. The Arts Society recognises that individuals may feel vulnerable for a variety of reasons which may include:

- Age
- Gender
- Disability
- Sexual orientation
- Religious beliefs
- Race
- Ill health (physical and/or mental)

Responsibility - The Society expects its members to:

- Refrain from any abusive action in relation to vulnerable individuals
- Report to the Society Chairman or other committee member anything they witness which is or might be abusive
- Co-operate in any investigation into alleged abuse.