

Safeguarding vulnerable beneficiaries

We have a safe-guarding procedure and we will follow whatever guide-lines are required by the places in which we are working.

The work of the Wollstonecraft Society (WS) is largely the provision of online resources and direct delivery sessions in community and educational settings. The latter includes children under the age of 18 and who therefore fall under the category of 'vulnerable beneficiaries'. WS will never make provision which places any associates, trustees or staff in sole contact with a child or children. When a WS associate is offering a teaching session this will take place in an educational establishment with staff of that establishment present. If a child asks for further 1:1 input with an associate or other person linked to WS it will be refused. WS is a low risk charity due to the lack of direct exposure to vulnerable persons. It is on that basis that the policy is presented.

DBS checks

All associates asked to make presentations in schools are DBS checked. These will be made available for the education or community organisation to view.

We will ensure DBS checks are undertaken, either where requested or if we are organising events of our own. All associates asked to make presentations are requested to ensure DBS checking. If requested we will make these available. We will require DBS checks to be no older than three years.

Service Recipient Safeguarding policy

WS will ask all persons with whom it works to share and confirm their own safeguarding policy and procedure with WS. An agreement will be reached that WS will work in line with the recipient policy and procedures.

All trustees, staff, volunteers, supporters and beneficiaries will be made aware of this policy and procedure

WS aims to

- protect child or other vulnerable beneficiaries from harm

- make sure any person associated with the work of TWS can raise safeguarding concerns
- handle allegations or incidents swiftly, carefully and confidentially.
- respond, including reporting to the relevant authorities

WS will contact the NSPCC for expert advice as needed

WS will record in detail any matters of concern in relation to vulnerable persons.

Safeguarding Procedure

If a person in contact with the charity suggests an action has taken place which can or has caused harm, the person who is accused will not be placed in a position of influence in any investigation

If there is any indication of a case of significant or serious harm to a child or vulnerable person the charity will refer the vulnerable party to the relevant agency based on the policy of the school or community organisation the charity is working with. TWS typically expects this to be the local authority or NSPCC.

If a child indicates to a WS associate, staff member or volunteer that they have experienced abuse at home or in the institution that person will pass that information back to the head of the organisation if appropriate and/or to the local authority and/or NSPCC.

It is not for those working with and for WS to judge the validity or extent of the alleged abuse or neglect nor to investigate it.

WS will not hold any personal or identifiable information including photographs on its website about any under 18's. If there is an intention to use photographs or quotes from children permission will be sought in advance.

Our policy is to undertake relevant training and if necessary ensure that anyone involved on our events has done the same.