

**FRIENDS OF BARNES COMMON**

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**FRIENDS OF BARNES COMMON (FoBC) POLICY STATEMENT**

**SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN AND VULNERABLE ADULTS**

Friends of Barnes Common (FoBC) acknowledges its duty of care to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and vulnerable adults. We are committed to ensuring safeguarding practice reflects statutory responsibilities, government guidance and complies with best practice.

The policy recognises that the welfare and interests of children and vulnerable adults are paramount in all circumstances. It aims to ensure that regardless of age, gender, religion or belief, ethnicity, disability, sexual orientation or socio-economic background, each and every individual participating in any activity overseen by FoBC has a positive, enjoyable experience in an environment that is safe and appropriate to their age and ability.

FoBC acknowledges that some participants, including those living with a disability, or those from minority or marginalised communities, may be particularly vulnerable to abuse and accepts responsibility to take reasonable and appropriate steps to safeguard their welfare whilst participating in FoBC activities.

As part of our commitment to safeguarding, FoBC aims to:

- promote and prioritise the safety and well-being of children and vulnerable adults
- ensure all staff and volunteers have a clear understanding of their role and responsibility with regard to confidentiality and safeguarding issues, and have access to appropriate training
- ensure that confidential, detailed and accurate records of all safeguarding concerns are maintained and stored securely
- ensure transparent and robust safeguarding arrangements and procedures are in place
- facilitate the accessibility and transparency of all policies and procedures, in hard copy and on the website
- emphasise that these policies and procedures are mandatory for anyone involved with FoBC.

**Monitoring**

This policy will be reviewed one year after development, and every three years after that, or in the following circumstances:

- changes in legislation and/or government guidance
- as required by any relevant statutory body
- as a result of any other significant change or event

Full details of all FoBC policies are transparent and accessible to all. Copies are held on site. They are available on request, and also appear at [www.fobc.org.uk/policies](http://www.fobc.org.uk/policies)