



## **East Midlands in Bloom – Safeguarding Guidance.**

These guidance notes are to be reading conjunction with the EMiB Safeguarding Policy

### **Introduction**

East Midland in Bloom Management Team are not responsible for the welfare of young people or vulnerable adults; however, our judges, assessors and management team (hereinafter referred to as Volunteers) do come into contact with children and / or adults at risk through the following activities:

Judging and Assessing – School and Community  
Seminars and Presentations

These types of contact with children and / or adults at risk is controlled.

### **Guidance**

EMiB makes a positive contribution to a strong and safe community and recognises the right of every individual to stay safe.

This guidance seeks to ensure that EMiB undertakes its responsibilities with regard to protection of children and/or vulnerable adults and will respond to concerns appropriately.

- EMiB Volunteers will not be in contact with a child or vulnerable adult without a responsible adult present supervising the contact.
- EMiB Volunteers will not access community spaces or buildings without prior agreement with the organising body.
- EMiB are not responsible for associated Bloom Groups within the East Midlands however will give advice and signposting if required and report any concerns if they arise.

Safeguarding is about embedding practices throughout the organisation to ensure the protection of children and / or vulnerable adults wherever possible. In contrast, child and adult protection is about responding to circumstances that arise.

### **Definition of Abuse**

Abuse is a selfish act of oppression and injustice, exploitation and manipulation of power by those in a position of authority. This can be caused by those inflicting harm or those who fail to act to prevent harm. Abuse is not restricted to any socio-economic group, gender or culture.

It can take a number of forms, including the following:

- Physical abuse
- Sexual abuse
- Emotional abuse
- Bullying
- Neglect or Acts of Omission
- Financial (or material) abuse
- Modern Slavery

### **Definition of a child**

A child is under the age of 18 (as defined in the United Nations convention on the Rights of a Child).

### **Definition of Vulnerable Adults/ Adults at Risk**

A vulnerable adult/adult at risk is a person aged 18 years or over who may be unable to take care of themselves or protect themselves from harm or from being exploited.

This may include a person who:

- Is elderly and frail
- Has a mental illness including dementia
- Has a physical or sensory disability
- Has a learning disability
- Has a severe physical illness
- Is a substance misuser
- Is homeless

### **EMiB Advice for In Bloom and IYN Groups**

All volunteers have responsibility to follow the guidance laid out and related policies, and to pass on any welfare concerns using the required procedures.

We expect all volunteers to promote good practice by being an excellent role model, contribute to discussions about safeguarding and to positively involve people in developing safe practices.

**EMiB strongly recommend that each Bloom group should have it's own Safeguarding Policy & Guidance that will be more appropriate to their activities.**

***To ensure that any concerns raised are dealt with swiftly, and any serious concerns about safeguarding are reported/dealt with.***

Each County area will have their own reporting contact detail, make sure you are familiar with this in your area.

As an example: Derbyshire's is Call Derbyshire Starting Point Tel: 01629 533190 out of hours Tel: 01629 532600

### **Further Information**

EMiB supports effective communications and support mechanisms in relation to Safeguarding, the RHS has a very good page on their website as follows:

<https://www.rhs.org.uk/get-involved/community-gardening/resources/young-people>

## **Signposting to Training**

All volunteers who, through their role, who are in contact with children and /or vulnerable adults can have access to safeguarding training at an appropriate level. Types of training can be sourced from <https://www.safecic.co.uk/>

EMiB expects volunteers to protect the professional integrity of themselves and their organisation.

You may want to consider adopting the following professional boundaries in your group:

- No use of abusive language
- Do not respond to inappropriate behaviour / language
- No use of punishment or chastisement
- Passing on personal contact details of volunteers without their consent
- Be cautious or avoidance of personal contact with vulnerable persons.
- Treat each other with respect.

Don't forget not to share personal data unless it is with the appropriate authorities, please see our guidance on GDPR.

If you would like any further guidance or information, please contact us at [secretary@emib.org.uk](mailto:secretary@emib.org.uk)