**Kingston Village Hall**

**Child Protection Statement**

At present there are no youth groups, clubs or younger children’s groups in Kingston, nor is the Hall used by any such outside group and there is no specific Child Protection Policy in place.

However, Kingston Hall Management Committee seeks to provide a safe physical and personal environment for users of all ages and abilities (see our Health and Safety Policy and our Vulnerable Users Policy).

Our Booking and Lettings procedure includes a requirement for hirers to confirm they have read and agree to abide by the above policies.

With regard to physical safety issues concerning children in particular the recently upgraded building now provides:

* A level floor throughout internally
* A child-safe play area
* Baby-changing facilities
* Even exterior surfacing
* Toddler-safe fencing and gates, separating the external grounds of the hall from the car-park and road

There is a notice in the entrance hall reminding adults that they are responsible for the safety of children in their care.

It is to be hoped that our improved Village Hall will encourage organised activities for children to take place again in the future and we recognise that we should then have an additional duty of care for the physical, emotional, sexual and psychological safety of our young users. At that point we should accordingly put in place a specific child protection policy and amend our Bookings and Lettings Policy to include the legally required child protection measures.

This statement will be reviewed as appropriate.

Two Trustees to sign

Patricia Draper

Paul Wright

Dated: 01/03/2024