

Quaker Arts Network

Safeguarding Policy

Approved by QAN Trustees on 28 March 2025

Review date: March 2026

Policy purpose and brief

This policy has been written in line with legislation, policy and guidance that seeks to protect children, young people and adults at risk in England and Wales and Scotland. It expresses the overarching principles that guide our approach to the protection of children, young people and adults at risk in our QAN events.

“Children and young people” means anyone aged under 18. “Adults at risk” includes “adults with care and support needs”.

Our commitment

We understand safeguarding as a spiritual concern for one another in all we do. Everyone, including children, young people and at-risk adults, should be able to participate in QAN events without suffering harm, regardless of age, disability, gender reassignment, race, religion or belief, sex or sexual orientation. Our care for others may include requiring DBS/SRB certificates on some occasions.

We recognise abuse can include, but is not limited to, physical, sexual, emotional abuse and neglect. We know that Quaker meetings or activities may incur risks because we foster a culture of welcome and openness.

Responsibilities

Safeguarding is everyone’s responsibility at QAN events. One of our trustees holds specific responsibility on behalf of QAN; contact details are at the end of this document.

Responding to concerns or allegations of abuse

Individual events will have their own context-specific safeguarding policy and conduct their own risk assessments. If someone is in immediate danger at one of these events, the police must be contacted and the Safeguarding trustee informed in strict confidence as soon as possible.

If there is a less immediate concern about abuse of any kind at a QAN event, the Safeguarding trustee should be contacted as soon as possible, in strict confidence.

The trustee will act according to the safeguarding guidance offered by Britain Yearly Meeting: [Safeguarding | Quakers in Britain](#)

Working with those who may pose a risk

When someone attending a QAN event is known to have abused others or is under investigation or known to be a risk to children, young people or adults at risk, QAN will seek to be able to supervise the person and offer pastoral care. Robust arrangements would then be put in place to protect children and adults at risk. This may include supervision and boundary-setting in a written contract to which they will be expected to adhere. Such a person will not be allowed to work with children, young people or adults at risk or have unsupervised contact with them.

Review

The safeguarding trustee considers annually if there is any new guidance, information or legislation requiring a review of this policy. A more comprehensive review by trustees takes place every five years.

Safeguarding Trustee: Clerk (David Curtis) and Assistant Clerk (Josiane Smith)