



# Burnt Oak Nepalese Community

बर्न्टओक नेपाली समाज

London, United Kingdom

## Safeguarding Policy

### Preamble

As a community with frequent interactions involving children and vulnerable adults, we are required by law to implement specific measures to ensure their safety and well-being.

### Purpose

The Burnt Oak Nepalese Community (BONC) is committed to creating a safe, welcoming, and inclusive environment for all its members, especially children, elderly citizens, and vulnerable individuals. This policy outlines the responsibilities, procedures, and measures we will take to safeguard and protect the well-being of everyone involved in our community.

#### Key Components:

- Clear procedures for reporting and addressing safeguarding concerns.
- Training on safeguarding principles.
- Fulfil vetting requirements, including DBS (Disclosure and Barring Service) checks.

### Scope of the Policy

This policy applies to all BONC members, volunteers, and anyone involved in BONC activities. It covers all community events, meetings, and activities organised by BONC, both in-person and online.

### Our Obligations

#### Legal Framework

BONC adheres to the following UK legislation and guidelines:

1. **The Children Act 1989 and 2004** – Duty to protect children from harm.
2. **The Care Act 2014** – Safeguarding duties for vulnerable adults.
3. **The Equality Act 2010** – Promoting inclusivity and preventing discrimination.
4. **Working Together to Safeguard Children (2018)** – Guidance on inter-agency collaboration.
5. **General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR)** – Protecting personal and sensitive information.

### Requirements

1. **DBS Checks:** Volunteers and staff working with children, elderly citizens, or vulnerable members must have enhanced Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) checks.

2. **Training:** Mandatory safeguarding training for all BONC staff, volunteers, and key members.
3. **Safeguarding Lead:** Appoint a designated safeguarding officer (DSO) to oversee safeguarding practices and address concerns.
4. **Policies and Procedures:**
  - Clear reporting mechanisms for safeguarding concerns.
  - Risk assessments for all activities involving children, elderly, or vulnerable adults.

**Partnerships:** Collaborate with local authorities and safeguarding organisations for advice, support, and escalation of concerns

## Key Safeguarding Measures

### For Children:

- **Supervision:** Ensure children are supervised during all activities.
- **Parental Consent:** Obtain consent for activities involving children.

### For Elderly Citizens:

- **Accessibility:** Ensure venues and activities are accessible.
- **Support:** Offer assistance for mobility or medical needs.
- **Prevent Isolation:** Promote social inclusion and monitor signs of neglect.

### For Vulnerable Adults:

- **Dignity and Respect:** Treat everyone with dignity, regardless of their abilities or circumstances.
- **Empowerment:** Encourage vulnerable members to participate in decision-making.
- **Signposting:** Provide information about local support services.

## Reporting Concerns

### When to Report:

- If a child, elderly person, or vulnerable adult is at immediate risk of harm.
- If there are signs of abuse, neglect, or exploitation.
- If a safeguarding concern is disclosed.

### How to Report:

1. **Internally:** Contact the BONC designated safeguarding officers (tbc).
2. **Externally:**
  - For children: Call the NSPCC helpline at 0808 800 5000.
  - For adults: Contact your local Adult Safeguarding Team
    - MASH Team on tel: 020 8359 4066 or email: mash@barnet.gov.uk.
  - In emergencies: Call 999.

## Review and Monitoring

This policy will be reviewed annually or sooner if there are changes in legislation or community needs. Feedback from members will be incorporated to ensure the policy remains effective and relevant.

Approved by	Position	Effective date	Signature
<b>Khamir J Gurung</b>	Chairman	05.01.2025	

Policy Author	Position
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