



SAFEGUARDING POLICY

A Policy for Trustees, Volunteers and Contractors

Skipton in Bloom is a Registered Charity. The group's members represent Craven College, Stepping Stones II Project, the two Skipton Rotary clubs, Skipton Gardeners Club, Skipton Town Council, Skipton BID, local residents and volunteers. Our vision is to:

- Make Skipton more attractive for all who visit, live and work in the town
- Encourage people to be more actively involved in the aesthetic values of the town
- Encourage local pride
- Stimulate horticultural interest by working with enthusiastic individuals, schools and other groups
- Act as an umbrella organisation for local horticultural and environmental groups
- Enhance the reputation of Skipton as a tourist destination
- Create a more sustainable and environmentally friendly townscape

Volunteer workdays are held once a month during the spring, summer and autumn and these are attended by volunteers who wish to help with projects in the town. Several Trustees are always present at these workdays. The Trustees' responsibilities are to ensure the health and safety of the projects they work on around Skipton and to manage the work in line with its charitable objectives and policy.

Skipton in Bloom is not staffed or registered to take responsibility for the care of children or vulnerable adults, but it does wish to be open to all those who wish to help. At no time are volunteers, including the Trustees, permitted to take sole responsibility for the care of children or vulnerable adults in their capacity as volunteers on behalf of the project. We therefore request that vulnerable adults are accompanied by an adult carer and that individual children between the ages of 16 -18 have written permission from their parent or guardian to take part in Skipton in Bloom activities. They will be supervised by more than one Trustee at all times. Children under the age of 16 are welcome but must be accompanied by an adult. Schoolchildren who are volunteering as part of class activities should always be accompanied by the appropriate number of teachers and class assistants.

Skipton in Bloom regularly contracts for services such as planting and watering. At no time are contractors required or permitted to take any responsibility for the care of children or adults whilst working on behalf of Skipton in Bloom.

The Trustees of Skipton in Bloom recognise that safeguarding children and vulnerable adults is vital and that as Charity Trustees we have a duty of care towards the children and vulnerable adults. The Trustees are committed to the principle that all children and vulnerable adults without exception have the right to protection from abuse regardless of gender, ethnicity, disability, sexuality or beliefs.

Where concerns about children and young people's welfare are raised, the Skipton in Bloom Trustees are committed to working with all relevant agencies to take appropriate actions to address those concerns, working to agreed local policies and procedures and legal requirements. Any concerns or allegations of abuse will be taken seriously by Trustees and volunteers and be responded to appropriately - this may require a referral to children's services and in emergencies, the police. This policy will be reviewed annually or more frequently if required.

This policy has been approved and endorsed by the Board of Trustees on 10th February 2020.

Local Sources of Advice and Information

Safeguarding Vulnerable Adults: North Yorkshire County Council 01609 780780

North Yorkshire Safeguarding Children Partnership: 01609 780780 or written referral via the Universal Referral Form safeguardingchildren.co.uk

In case of emergency dial 999