

## Safeguarding

### What is Safeguarding?

The term safeguarding is used to define actions taken to protect people from harm. This harm might come from adults or children and, as someone working closely with groups, it's important you understand what safeguarding is and why it's important, including when working as a tourist guide. You may not be able to deal with this personally, but you can help if you are aware of the signs, even if to signpost a person to where they can find help, for example, the Ask for Angela scheme.

Working with groups is very rewarding, but it comes with many responsibilities. Everyone has a right to live their lives free from fear, abuse and neglect and, if you work with groups, you have a responsibility to protect their safety and basic human rights, especially when working with a wide range of cultures, age ranges and groups.

Missing warning signs could have serious consequences and leave vulnerable individuals open to abuse, neglect and exploitation. Poor safeguarding could result in:

- Cases of grooming, abuse and neglect being missed.
- An increase in the cases or severity of grooming, abuse and neglect if they go unnoticed.
- Vulnerable adults and children being treated with a lack of compassion or empathy.
- Increased confusion and distress for individuals who are suffering but do not know who to talk to. This could adversely impact their behaviour, so you might notice more outbursts.
- Loss of dignity and liberty for vulnerable adults.

### Benefits of Safeguarding Training

There are many benefits of safeguarding training, including helping you to:

- Understand which individuals are at risk of harm or are particularly vulnerable.
- Recognise tell-tale signs of neglect, discomfort and abuse.
- Effectively communicate with people who appear to be in danger
- Know how to correctly record and report instances of abuse and neglect.
- Increase trust in your organisation

There are a number of organisations that offer training on safeguarding to raise awareness, a selection of links can be found below:

<https://hsqe.co.uk>

<https://hsqe.co.uk>

[www.elearningatwork.co.uk](http://www.elearningatwork.co.uk)

[www.reed.co.uk/courses/free/safeguarding/online](http://www.reed.co.uk/courses/free/safeguarding/online)

<https://learning.nspcc.org.uk/training>