

Stannington Village Hall

Equal Opportunities Policy

1. Scope of the Policy

Stannington Village Hall Committee is committed to providing an equal, open, welcoming, and accessible environment for all hall users and volunteers.

We are opposed to all forms of unlawful and unfair discrimination. We aim to provide equality for all irrespective of gender, including gender reassignment, marital or civil partnership status, having or not having dependents, religious belief or political opinion, race (including colour, nationality, ethnic or national origins, being a traveller), disability, sexual orientation, and age.

Openness to engage with potential users of the hall will ensure that people from all sections of society have the opportunity to benefit from the resources of the hall.

Our policy applies to all volunteers, including committee members and all those who use or would wish to use the hall.

2. Equality Commitment

We are committed to:

- Promoting equality of opportunity to all persons
- Promoting a good and harmonious environment where all persons are treated with respect
- Preventing unlawful discrimination
- Fulfilling our legal obligations under equalities legislation and codes of practice
- Complying with our own equal opportunities policy
- Taking lawful affirmative action or positive action where appropriate.

3 Implementation

All volunteers and hall users have a responsibility for the effective implementation of this policy. The Chair of Trustees has oversight of this.

To implement effectively we will:

- Make our policy available to all hall hirers and ensure that an up-to-date version of the policy is on the hall website
- Obtain a commitment from potential hirers of the hall that they will comply with the policy.

4 Complaints

As well as being able to exercise their statutory rights, volunteers and hall users who feel they have suffered discrimination in the hall are entitled to raise the matter directly with the Chair of Trustees. Complaints will be fully investigated promptly and confidentially. Action will be taken in line with the outcome of the investigation.

5. Access Statement

The Village Hall Committee recognises that there may be barriers to accessing the hall and we aim to provide the widest possible access to our resources wherever possible. Our programmes are available to a wide range of people including those with disabilities.

We have car parking at the front of the hall which includes disability bays. We have on-street parking in front of the hall when we hold special events.

The main entrance is on one level as is access to each room in the hall and the doors are accessible to wheelchair users.

Where we are able to do so, we will endeavour to provide on-line access to programmes for club members and hall users who are unable to travel to the hall.

6. Catering

There is level access to the kitchen and hall users have the opportunity to make their own tea or coffee. There is a relevant hygiene certificate for the kitchen.

7. Fire exits

Fire exits are clearly marked and lead to level areas at a safe distance from the front and back of the hall.