

APPENDIX I

Safeguarding

Background

The Criminal Records Bureau (CRB) and the Independent Safeguarding Authority (ISA) have merged to become the Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS). CRB checks are now called DBS checks.

General Principles

It is advisable to state that children are welcome to come along to any work or activity accompanied by a parent, guardian or nominated responsible adult. Under no circumstances should any child be placed in a situation where he or she is working alone with an adult.

Where children are taking part in work days or similar activities it is advisable to have parents / guardians sign a consent form. This also applies to adults supervising or regularly working with work experience students, or vulnerable adults. A specific Risk Assessment should be carried out for young people on practical work tasks.

Adults working with a group of children should have been DBS checked. It is advisable that Friends keep a register of DBS checked adults and to try to ensure that only those on the register work with children who are not accompanied by a parent or guardian.

Any volunteers that fulfil the criteria outlined below should have an enhanced DBS disclosure carried out:

- where the children are being left in the charge of the volunteer(s) and where there is a likelihood they would be left alone with groups of children,
- supervising or regularly working with work experience students,
- supervising or regularly assisting groups with vulnerable adults,

If groups consider members require a DBS disclosure please speak to your Friends Officer who will be happy to advise and arrange if necessary. Please visit the Direct Gov website for further details on DBS checks at www.gov.uk/disclosure-barring-service-check/