

SOUND SYSTEMS ACCREDITATION SCHEME: HOW TO GET INVOLVED

1. Volunteer your group/organisation to become assessed

The accreditation scheme is a good method of examining and identifying what safeguarding policies and procedures are necessary to ensure that all the children and young people you work with are protected from harm. The scheme involves an initial self-evaluation process undertaken using a self-assessment checklist. The self-assessment process will enable you to identify what policies and procedures you have in place and what needs developing or updating. Working with a trained assessor and mentor allocated specifically to your group or organisation, you will identify an action plan and what additional support you need. The mentor will work with and support you to meet the standards. Once ready, an independent assessor will contact you to assess your evidence. Based on this they will submit your application to the awarding body for final accreditation. This scheme is entirely voluntary. You apply for accreditation when you feel ready to do so. You can carry out the self-assessment at any time.

2. Volunteer to become an assessor/mentor for stage two of the pilot

We are looking for volunteers to train as assessors and mentors. You will receive training in how to assess and/or mentor organisations, how to evaluate all the evidence that you will receive and how to provide feedback to organisations. You will also receive in-depth training in the 'Keeping it Safe' standards and safeguarding and child protection legislation and practice. You will work closely with NCVYS' safeguarding development officer, supporting voluntary and community groups to achieve the standards. Any travelling and out of pocket expenses can be covered, so all it will cost is your time. As well as receiving training you and your organisation/group will benefit from your in-house expertise, thus enabling you to share this with them and support them in meeting the standards.

3. Join the task group to shape and influence the scheme

The safeguarding task group meets four times a year. You would meet to discuss the accreditation scheme and help shape it by inputting your ideas, opinions and suggestions. This will inform the work of the development officer (safeguarding) in the development of the Sound Systems accreditation.

Please contact Chris Brewster on mobile: 07971 054 925/tel: 01905 619139 or email chris@ncvys.org.uk to arrange a meeting to discuss your options further.