

Safe Places Organisation CIC



Keep Safe with Safe Places

The Safe Places national network was created to break down the barriers and borders between districts, to unite all Safe Place and Keep Safe schemes and turn the patchwork of schemes into a nationwide network of support.

Becoming a member of the national network isn't just about joining a Safe Places club.

Membership to the national network provides benefits which help schemes promote, support and teach about being safe and keeping safe. Membership provides access to assistive technology including the interactive web site and free-to-use Safe Places smart phone apps; it also provides access to bespoke SEND education and information resources to help teach vulnerable people about Safe Places and to encourage independence.

By introducing bespoke Safe Places education materials, we enable Safe Places to be taught as part of the 'Life skills' curriculum in SEND education establishments. This plays a key role in supporting the promotion of independence and helping improve the quality of life of some of the most vulnerable people in our society.

By creating a nationwide network of support, we believe vulnerable people can be encouraged to be more independent and live more active, engaging, fulfilling lives.

We have designed our benefits package to ensure it helps local authorities meet their obligation under the Children and Families Act, 'to prepare young people with SEND to lead independent lives and feel part of a community'.

Being safe and feeling safe while out and about encourages vulnerable people to become more visible in their communities; the more visible they are the safer they are.

Aspects of the education part of our service are designed to encourage SEND volunteers to assist in auditing the Safe Place venues. This encourages vulnerable people to visit new places and meet new people using our assistive technology while practicing numeracy and literacy skills.

Our membership is now available to all Safe Place and Keep Safe scheme operators across the UK.

Below is a list of the benefits of becoming part of the nationwide network of support.

Member Benefits

There are three key parts to our service;

1. **Interactive SEND Education Web Site**
2. **Free-to-use Smart Phone Apps**
3. **Education and Information materials (SEND and Mainstream)**

Safe Places Organisation CIC

14 Thornhill Drive

Newark, NG22 9JG

Registered in England and Wales 09267948

1 Web Site

www.safeplaces.org.uk is the basis for our service

Scheme operators (members) and are allocated a Virtual Private Network (VPN) account

Account holds all information about member's scheme and Safe Places

Designed to be used in SEND education establishments

Is embedded with symbols to ensure as many user groups as possible can access the information

Uses FS Me font was researched and developed with (and endorsed by) Mencap

Contains the 'Point' software (hover your mouse over a word and the symbol appears)

Works with both touch screens and interactive whiteboards

Resolves the issue of multiple web sites being operated within a region/nationally

Removes the need and cost of maintaining a non-SEND friendly web site

All member's Safe Places can be easily viewed on a map and listed

Details of each Safe Place visible at the touch of a button

Search function allows you to find all our members Safe Places no matter where you are

2 Free-to-use Smart Phone Apps

Are now and will always be free-to-use

Available to download at the App store and Google Play

Information on the web site populates the free-to-use smart phone apps

Only members Safe Places details are visible

Has reactive function 'Get me to my nearest Safe Place Now' (Panic button)

Can be used proactively to find and visit Safe Places as part of the Safety in the Community 'Life skills' curriculum

Encourages vulnerable people to get out and about in their community

Safe Place details available at the touch of a button

Only directs the user to open Safe Places

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Is an effective way to reach out to more difficult to reach isolated vulnerable people already living independently who may already have and use smart phones

Used for a Safe Places 'treasure hunt' competition. Entrants details used to evidence exactly how many people are discovering Safe Places and when

Treasure hunt can be in different parts of the local area to encourages vulnerable users to visit and experience new places

Apps can be used by SEND college students who 'volunteer for work experience' as part of their course to help identify and audit Safe Places for the scheme operators

Venue Audits provide figures of how many individual Safe Place visits there have been and when they were made

3 Education and Information materials (SEND and Mainstream)

Introduces Safe Places to formal SEND education for the first time

Free-to-use Safe Place teaching materials to be available for all SEND levels

Within member districts locality every education establishment with an SEND provision or organisation looking to teach vulnerable people about Safe Places are allocated a free-to-use account

This enables every downloaded to be recorded so the local Scheme Operator (funding body) can see how many SEND students at each level in each area are being taught about Safe Places

Materials matched to curriculum objectives for both the National Curriculum & P Levels

Mainstream materials to explain how the scheme works and the lives of the scheme users have now started to be introduced

Easily 'tagged onto' existing anti bullying campaign sessions

Additional benefits

As well as launching our SEND education materials we have taken the first step into the world of mainstream awareness raising by forming a partnership with 'Amazing Things Happen'. Their first video (around 6M views) has resulted in award nominations around the world. We think this is a great 'gateway' through which Safe Places and the lives of some of the Safe Place users can be introduced to mainstream students.

If you haven't seen it you can find it on our homepage (please have a look its great). We have made it available for everyone to view not just to those located within our member districts so please tell everyone you know to have a look.

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Annual Membership Fee

Our service is funded by a small annual membership fee. The fee is charged per district; if a scheme covers more than one district the membership fee will be the total of all the districts combined.

The membership fee is £700 per district per year (or £13.46 per week if you prefer weekly figures).

If there are more than five districts within a scheme this drops to £500 per district per year (or £9.62 per week).

If Safe Places Org is sponsored by a company or organisation their local district receives free membership for the duration of the sponsorship period.

We believe the vulnerable residents of our communities shouldn't be restricted in their access of support by the borders and boundaries between districts and regions.

While establishing Safe Place schemes in districts or counties has been a fantastic first step it still isolates vulnerable people within one place.

It is our belief we should be encouraging all people to play active parts in their local communities and beyond. To say there is support but only in your local area undermines this.

Vulnerable people should be encouraged to visit different parts of the country, be it a neighbouring city, a major tourist attraction, a day out at the seaside or visiting family members and friends.

By uniting all the Safe Places schemes across the UK, together we will turn a patchwork of schemes into a nationwide network of support.