

HEDGE END VILLAGE HALL

BOUNCY CASTLE & INFLATABLE USE POLICY (2026)

1. Purpose & Scope

This policy sets out the mandatory conditions for the use of bouncy castles and inflatables within Hedge End Village Hall. It applies to all hirers, suppliers, and supervising adults responsible for inflatable equipment used indoors or outdoors on Village Hall premises.

2. Booking & Insurance Requirements

- Hirers must declare inflatable use at the time of booking.
- Hirers must provide evidence of **Public Liability Insurance** with a minimum indemnity of **£5 million**.
- Supplier insurance may only apply when the supplier supervises; otherwise the hirer must obtain their own cover.
- The Village Hall's insurance **does not** cover inflatable use under any circumstances.

3. Compliance & Equipment Standards

- All inflatables must comply with **BS EN 14960**.
- Suppliers must follow **HSE Guidance PM76 – Safe Operation of Inflatable Bouncing Devices**.
- Equipment must have a valid annual inspection certificate where applicable.
- Installation must follow manufacturer instructions exactly.

4. Supervision & Safe Operation

- Continuous **adult supervision** (18+) is required at all times.
- Supervisors must enforce:
 - Age and size restrictions
 - No overcrowding
 - Removal of shoes, sharp objects, jewellery, pens
 - No food, drink, chewing gum
 - No acrobatics, flips, or rough play
- Recommended user age: **under 10**, unless supplier guidance permits older users.

5. Indoor Placement & Space Restrictions

- Inflatables must fit safely without contacting ceilings, beams, lights, walls, or asbestos-containing surfaces.
- Must not obstruct fire exits, emergency routes, or fire safety equipment.
- **Main Hall only** — inflatables are prohibited in the Committee Room and Kitchenette.
- Hirers must consider the position of the overhead projection when placing equipment.

6. Electrical & Anchoring Safety

- Blowers and electrical equipment must be safe and **PAT tested** where appropriate.
- Cables must be routed to avoid trip hazards.
- No fixings may be attached to floors or building fabric (no stakes, screws, bolts, adhesives, Velcro).
- Only freestanding, non-marking weights such as sandbags may be used.

7. Damage Liability

Hirers are financially responsible for any damage caused to:

- Floors, walls, ceilings, beams
- Lighting, doors, fixtures, fittings
- Fire safety equipment
- Any other part of the building

Incorrect sizing or unsafe placement may incur repair charges.

8. Outdoor Use

Outdoor inflatables must not be used in high winds or severe weather. The hirer is responsible for assessing conditions and ensuring safe operation at all times.

9. Emergency Shutdown

Use must stop immediately if the inflatable becomes unstable, damaged, defective, or unsafe. All incidents must be reported to the Village Hall Management Committee without delay.

10. Supplier Obligations

Suppliers must provide:

- Evidence of **£5m Public Liability Insurance**
- Written safety instructions
- Manufacturer/supplier details clearly marked on the inflatable
- Competent, trained personnel if supervising

11. Hirer Responsibilities Summary

Hirers must:

- Ensure compliance with all safety rules
- Provide continuous adult supervision
- Confirm insurance and supplier competence
- Ensure correct sizing and safe placement
- Prevent unsafe behaviour
- Report incidents immediately