

Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy

North Wingfield Parish Council

Introduction

Everyone has a duty to safeguard children, young people and vulnerable adults. This policy outlines the practice that will promote the safety of children, young people and vulnerable adults using parish council facilities. The policy will be reviewed by the parish council annually.

Definitions

Children and young people:

Anyone under the age of 18 years

Vulnerable adults:

Anyone over 18 who is

- Unable to care for themselves
- Unable to protect themselves from significant harm or exploitation
- Or may be in need of community care service

To whom this policy applies

This policy applies to anyone working for or on behalf of North Wingfield Parish Council whether in paid, voluntary or commissioned capacity.

Promoting a safe environment

In order to promote a safe environment for children, young people and vulnerable adults, North Wingfield Parish Council wishes to promote a safeguarding culture in its premises and activity areas. In order to achieve this, Pilsley Parish Council will:

- Provide safe facilities and undertake regular safety assessments
- Ensure that employees and councillors are aware of the safeguarding expectations
- Make available on public notice boards and to employees and councillors, the contact details of the following:
 - Multi-Agency Team (MAT) 01246 85228
 - The Local Authority Designated Officer (LADO) 01629 051940
 - The NSPPC 020 7825 2500
 - The Social Care Emergency Team (EDT) 01629 533190
- Employees, councillors and volunteers all have a duty to protect children, young people and vulnerable adults but are not responsible for deciding whether abuse is taking place. If they have concerns, these should be passed on to the Local Social Duty Officer, the MASH or EDT as soon as possible.

Allegations against staff and volunteers

All staff should take care not to place themselves in a vulnerable position with a child. It is always advisable for interviews or work with individual children or parents to be conducted in view of other adults.

- All staff should be aware of the settings behaviour/discipline policy.
- The Parish should follow the OSCB procedures for managing allegations against staff/volunteers, a copy of which can be found on the OSCB website.
- No attempt should be made to investigate or act on any allegation before consultation with the LADO.

Whistleblowing

We recognise that children cannot be expected to raise concerns in an environment where staff or volunteers fail to do so.

All staff and volunteers should be aware of their duty to raise concerns about the attitude or actions of colleagues and appropriate advice will be sought from the LADO or Safeguarding Team.

What should be a cause for concern?

Staff and volunteers should be concerned by any behaviour, action or inaction, which significantly harms the physical and/or emotional development of a child. A child may be abused by parents, other relatives of carers, professionals and other children, and abuse can occur in any family OR in any other area of society, regardless of social class, wealth or geographical location.

Abuse falls into four main categories:

1. Physical Abuse
2. Emotional Abuse
3. Sexual Abuse
4. Neglect

All staff and volunteers need to have awareness that there are many other forms of abuse ranging from Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) to Female Genital Mutilation (FGM).

Ideally, staff and volunteers who engage with children will have accessed appropriate child protection training via Derbyshire County Children's Training Team (safeguarding).

All agencies, whether statutory, voluntary or other are obliged to follow the procedures laid out on the Derbyshire County Council website.

Useful Contact Details

Local Authority Designated Officer (LADO) Miles.dent@derbyshire.gov.uk	01629 531940
Safeguarding Children Board Manager Amanda.clark@derbyshire.gov.uk	01629 532181
Safeguarding Child Protection (development) Manager Jayne.atkinson@derbyshire.gov.uk	01629 536747
Safeguarding Child Protection (schools) Manager Debbie.peacock@derbyshire.gov.uk	01629 531079
Head of Child Protection – DCC Sara.bartlett@derbyshire.gov.uk	01629 532169
Children’s Training Team (safeguarding) Cathy.barrass@derbyshire.gov.uk	01629 531933
NEDDC – Safeguarding Lead Officer Rebecca.slack@ne-derbyshire.gov.uk	01246 217289
Multi-Agency Team Alice’s View Children’s Centre	01246 852228