

## Whittlebury Parish Council Safeguarding Policy

### 1. Introduction

Everyone has a duty to safeguard children, young people and vulnerable adults. This policy outlines 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.

### 2 Definitions

*Children and young people:*

Anyone under the age of 18 years

*Vulnerable Adult:*

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 services

### 3 To whom this policy applies

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

### 4 Promoting a safe environment

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

- Provide safe facilities and undertake regular safety assessments.
- Ensure that employees, volunteers and contractors are aware of our safeguarding expectations.
- Make available on public notice boards and to employees and volunteers the following contact details:

**Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub or MASH 0300 126 1000** (Mon - Fri 8:00am - 6:00pm)  
**01604 626938** (Out of hours)

Employees 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. Concerns should be passed to the MASH as soon as possible.

Employees and volunteers should take care not to place themselves in a vulnerable position with a child or vulnerable adult. Interviews or work with individual children or vulnerable adults should be conducted in view of other adults.

**5. What should be a cause for concern?**

Employees and volunteers should be concerned by any behaviour, action or inaction, which could significantly harm the physical and/or emotional development and wellbeing of a child or vulnerable adult. Abuse may be perpetrated by parents, relatives, carers, professionals and other children and adults. Abuse can occur in any family OR in any other area of society, regardless of social class, wealth, status or geographical location.

Abuse falls into four main categories:

- Physical Abuse
- Emotional Abuse
- Sexual Abuse
- Neglect

However, there are many other forms of abuse ranging from Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) through to Online and Cyber Bullying.

**6. Training and Further information**

It is recommended that employees and volunteers who regularly engage with children access appropriate training through the Northamptonshire Safeguarding Children Board (NSCB). Further details about this, together with more information about types of abuse, signs to look for and how to raise concerns are available on the NSCB website [www.northamptonshirescb.org.uk/](http://www.northamptonshirescb.org.uk/)

Adopted \_\_\_\_ September 17<sup>th</sup> 2015\_\_\_\_\_

Minute reference \_\_\_\_\_ 12 of 17.9.15\_\_\_\_\_

Reviewable in May each year.