



EMBLETON PARISH COUNCIL

Safeguarding Policy

1. Purpose

Embleton Parish Council is committed to promoting a safe environment for children, young people and vulnerable adults when carrying out council activities, managing council facilities, or supporting community events.

The Council recognises that safeguarding considerations may arise through:

- management of public spaces and facilities;
- operation and maintenance of the play area;
- public events and fundraising activities;
- interaction with residents, volunteers, contractors and community groups.

Although the Council does not provide care services or supervised childcare, it recognises its responsibility to respond appropriately where safeguarding concerns arise.

2. Definitions

Child or young person: anyone under 18 years of age.

Vulnerable adult: an adult who may require care or support and may be unable to protect themselves from abuse, neglect or exploitation.

3. Scope

This policy applies to councillors, employees, volunteers, contractors and anyone acting on behalf of the Council.

4. Principles

The Council will:

- treat all individuals with respect;
- promote a safe and inclusive environment;
- take safeguarding concerns seriously;
- respond appropriately to concerns raised;
- work with relevant agencies where necessary;
- consider safeguarding as part of event and facility management.

The Council aims to promote a culture of safeguarding awareness within its facilities, activities and events.



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The welfare of children and vulnerable adults is an important consideration in council activities and decision-making.

5. Safeguarding Concerns

If a councillor, employee, volunteer or contractor becomes aware of a safeguarding concern, they should report it to the Clerk or Chair as soon as possible.

Where there is an immediate risk of harm or danger, emergency services should be contacted without delay.

The Council will normally refer safeguarding concerns to the appropriate safeguarding authority, police or statutory agency rather than investigate matters itself.

Councillors, employees and volunteers are not responsible for determining whether abuse has occurred.

Councillors, employees, volunteers and contractors should not attempt to investigate safeguarding concerns themselves beyond recording and reporting concerns appropriately.

Relevant safeguarding contact details will be maintained separately by the Clerk where appropriate.

6. Play Areas and Public Facilities

The Council will take reasonable steps to maintain safe public facilities under its control, including appropriate inspection, maintenance and risk management arrangements.

The Council does not provide supervised childcare or supervision of play areas unless explicitly stated otherwise.

Parents, carers and responsible adults remain responsible for children using council facilities and attending council events.

7. Events and Community Activities

Where the Council organises or supports public events, fundraising activities or community events, reasonable safeguarding considerations will be included in planning and risk assessments where appropriate.

This may include:

- stewarding arrangements;
- emergency procedures;
- lost child arrangements;



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- consideration of site safety and accessibility.

Community groups, volunteers and contractors involved in council-supported events are expected to take reasonable steps to promote safeguarding and act appropriately at all times.

Volunteers and contractors acting on behalf of the Council are expected to act appropriately and follow this policy where relevant.

8. Conduct

Councillors, employees, volunteers and contractors acting on behalf of the Council should:

- behave appropriately and professionally;
- avoid inappropriate or private communications with children or vulnerable adults;
- avoid situations where they are unnecessarily alone with a child or vulnerable adult;
- report concerns promptly;
- respect privacy and dignity.

Any allegations or concerns relating to inappropriate behaviour should be taken seriously and reported appropriately.

9. Photographs and Social Media

Photographs of children should not normally be published by the Council where children are clearly identifiable without appropriate consent.

Care should be taken to avoid identifying children by name alongside photographs without appropriate consent.

Care should also be taken when publishing images or information relating to public events, community activities or vulnerable individuals.

10. DBS Checks

The Council does not normally undertake regulated activities requiring Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) checks.

Where an activity may require additional safeguarding measures or checks, this will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

11. Confidentiality

Safeguarding concerns will be handled sensitively and information will only be shared where necessary and lawful.



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The Council recognises that safeguarding concerns may override normal confidentiality requirements where there is a risk of harm.

12. Review

This policy will be reviewed every two years or sooner if required by changes in legislation, guidance or council operations.