

# SAFEGUARDING POLICY

Wolsingham Parish Council recognises its duty of care to safeguard children, young people and vulnerable adults who are using any of our services or settings, including the Recreation Ground, St Anne's Centre, Town Hall, of any other location under our control. We also have a duty to promote the welfare of children, young people and vulnerable adults as far as is reasonably practicable. Our behaviour must meet statutory requirements and comply with best practice guidelines as appropriate.

We recognise that the welfare of children and vulnerable adults is paramount at all times and in all circumstances, irrespective of age, gender, ability, race, sexual orientation, religion or culture. It takes priority over any other considerations in deciding our course of action. In this way we aim that children and vulnerable adults should be safe, and feel safe, in engaging in any sports or activities for which we have responsibility, and in any aspects of social and cultural life which we promote or support.

We recognise that some children and vulnerable adults, especially those with physical or intellectual impairments or with behavioural problems, may be particularly vulnerable to abuse or discrimination, and will take proactive steps to promote their welfare in designing our services.

As part of our safeguarding policy we will;

1. prioritise the safety and wellbeing of all children and vulnerable adults
2. ensure that everyone is aware of their responsibilities in respect of safeguarding, and is provided with basic guidance on recognising and reporting safeguarding concerns through our website and in written guidance.
3. ensure that appropriate action is taken whenever incidents or concerns about safeguarding are raised with the Council
4. ensure that confidential, detailed and accurate records are kept of any safeguarding issues, securely stored in accord with the current Data Protection legislation.
5. prevent the employment of unsuitable individuals in positions which might have access to children or vulnerable adults on our premises by using the Disclosure and Barring Service as appropriate.
6. seek assurances from anyone using our premises that they are bound by this policy and will ensure that all personnel are appropriately trained and checked.

This policy is mandatory for everyone acting on behalf of Wolsingham Parish Council. Failure to comply with the policy may result in individuals or organisations being excluded from all of our premises or services.

The current policy is available for reference on the Council's website at;  
[www.wolsinghamparishcouncil.uk](http://www.wolsinghamparishcouncil.uk)

The safeguarding policy will be reviewed annually, and whenever significant changes in legislation or best practice may require changes in our policy.

DS 13/12/17

Reviewed and confirmed by Council 12 March 2024