

# Wymeswold Parish Council

## Safeguarding Children and Young People Policy

Wymeswold Parish Council (The Council) is committed to ensure, as far as possible, the safeguarding of all children (who reside in or visit the village) from harm. All children have a right to protection, and the needs of disabled children and others who may be particularly vulnerable must be considered. Wymeswold Parish Council will promote the safety and protection of all children involved in village activities through promotion and adherence to the Child Protection guidelines that have been adopted.

- A child or young person is defined as a person under the age of 18 (The Children Act 1989). An activity refers to the specific sporting events, festivals and group sessions directly involving the Parish Council.
- It does not extend to those carried out by independent organisations and clubs operating in the village (who will be expected to have in place their own policies and procedures).

### **Aim of the Policy:**

The aim of the Wymeswold Parish Council Child Protection Policy is to promote good practice in:

- ensuring, as far as is possible that anyone, paid or voluntary, who seeks to work with children and young people with substantial access to them, through activities involving the Parish Council is as safe to do so in child protection terms as can be guaranteed.
- allowing all employees/volunteers to make informed and confident responses to specific child protection issues.

The usual activities of Wymeswold Parish Council do not involve the Clerk or any Councillor coming into direct contact with children. This is more so by the sporting organisations or individual groups using the Sports Pavilion for their events. However, the Clerk and all Councillors and these groups are asked to remember their responsibility in ensuring that good practice is promoted.

All sporting organisations and individual groups or events which make provision for children and young people and use the Sports Pavilion must ensure that:

- the welfare of the child is paramount.
- all children, whatever their age, culture, disability, gender, language, racial origin religious beliefs and/or sexual identity have the right to protection from abuse.
- all suspicions and allegations of abuse and poor practice will be taken seriously and responded to swiftly and appropriately.
- all persons (paid/unpaid) working in sport have a responsibility to report concerns to the appropriate officer.

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### **Photography/Filming of Events at the Sports Pavilion:**

Any activity involving the Parish Council must ensure that relevant consent is obtained before photographs or films are taken of anyone, and that consent is obtained before they are published. Such data must be stored safely. All organisations, individuals and groups should be vigilant, and any concerns should to be reported to the Clerk or Chair/Vice Chair.

Wymeswold Parish Council will take all reasonable steps to ensure that unsuitable people are prevented from working with children at the Sports Pavilion. If deemed necessary, the Council reserve the right to request that any coaches, volunteers, or contractors who will/may have substantial access to children and young people through their activities at the Sports Pavilion or any activity which directly relates to the Parish Council, have a Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) check at any time.

All children and young people under 18 using the Sports Pavilion and Washdyke/Sports Field remain the responsibility of their parents, guardians, or sporting/individual group that they are attached to whilst using the facilities.

Any concerns regarding the safety of children or young people using the facilities should be reported immediately to the Clerk or Chair/Vice Chair. The email address of the Clerk is [wymeswoldpc@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:wymeswoldpc@hotmail.co.uk) The Clerk or Chair/Vice Chair will report any issues to the relevant authority immediately.

The Wymeswold Parish Council Safeguarding Children and Young People Policy was approved at the Wymeswold Parish Council meeting on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> February 2024.

Next Policy Review date will be January 2029 unless legislation beforehand requires an update of the policy.