LILBOURNE PARISH COUNCIL

Safeguarding Policy

AIMS OF LILBOURNE PARISH COUNCIL

Lilbourne Parish Council aims to provide a safe transport system for all users and will work in partnership with parents, carers and the local community for the benefit of all school pupils using Lilbourne Minibus.

Safeguarding, advice and training contacts:

Safeguarding Referrals must be made in one of the following ways:

- By telephone contact to the Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub: 0300 126 7000
- By e-mail to: MASH@northamptonshire.gcsx.gov.uk;
- By using the online referral form found at http://www.northamptonshirecb.org.uk/more/borough-and-districtcouncils/how-to-make-an-online-referral/
- In an emergency outside office hours, by contacting the Emergency Duty Team or Police
- If a child is in immediate danger at any time, left alone or missing, you should contact the police directly and/or an ambulance using 999
- Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) Early Help Support, Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) and Child Protection Team - Local Offer (northamptonshire .gov.uk)

The Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) deals with referrals from professionals and members of the public who may have concerns about a child's welfare. It makes the process of dealing with referrals quicker and more effective by improving the way county council, Children's social care, Northamptonshire Fire and Rescue Service (NFRS), Youth Offending Service,(YOS) and education, work alongside other partner agency colleagues including Northamptonshire police, Northamptonshire health partners, National Probation Service, and the East Midlands Ambulance Service (EMAS) to share information.

Concerns about an adult who works with children

For referrals regarding adults in education: Designated Officers (formerly LADO) 01604 367677

The Designated Officer (formerly known as the Local Authority Designated Officer or LADO) should be informed of all cases in which it is alleged that a person who works with children has:

- Behaved in a way that has harmed, or may have harmed, a child;
- Possibly committed a criminal offence against children, or related to a child; or
- Behaved towards a child or children in a way that indicates they may pose a risk of harm to children, for example if their conduct falls within any of these categories of abuse:
  - physical
  - emotional
  - sexual
  - neglect.

Allegations made against workers who are paid, unpaid, volunteer, agency, casual and self-employed as well as foster carers, and adoptive parents of children on Placement Orders should all be reported to the Designated Officer. This should be done within 24 hours of the incident.

LADOReferral@northamptonshire.gcsx.gov.uk

1. Introduction

1.1 Lilbourne Parish Council fully recognise the contribution they can make to protect children and support pupils. The pupils' welfare and safety is of paramount importance. The aim of the policy is to safeguard and promote pupils' welfare, safety and health by fostering an honest, open, caring and supportive climate.

1.2 Lilbourne Parish Council is clear about

- The government's 'Working Together 2015' which sets out statutory guidance for agencies
- The Northamptonshire Safeguarding Children Board (NSCB) Procedures, which contain procedures and guidance for safeguarding children.

1.3 There are four main elements to our Child Protection Policy:

- Prevention (e.g. positive atmosphere and safer recruitment procedures);
- Protection (by following agreed procedures, ensuring all staff are trained and supported to respond appropriately and sensitively to Child Protection concerns);
- Support (to staff)
- Working with parents (to ensure appropriate communications and actions are undertaken).

1.4 This policy applies to all staff employed and volunteers of Lilbourne Parish Council. We recognise that child protection is the responsibility of all staff.

2. Safeguarding Commitment

2.1 Lilbourne Parish Council will therefore:

- Ensure that children know that there are adults employed or are volunteers whom they can approach if they are worried or are in difficulty;
- Operate safer recruitment procedures and make sure that all appropriate checks are carried out on new staff and volunteers who will work with children
- Ensure regular checks are completed on all adults employed or are volunteers to ensure they are up-to-date

3. Roles and Responsibilities

3.1 General

- All adults working with or on behalf of children have a responsibility to safeguard and promote their welfare. This includes a responsibility to be alert to possible abuse and to record and report concerns without delay.
- Effective policies and procedures are in place and updated annually including a "code of conduct" for staff and volunteers.

Adopted: 30th March 2022

Reviewed Date: May 2026