

OTTERBOURNE PARISH COUNCIL SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN AND VULNERABLE PERSONS POLICY

Otterbourne Parish Council will endeavour to ensure that Children and Vulnerable Persons are protected and kept safe from harm whilst they are engaged in any activity associated with the Parish Council or use of its land or property. Vulnerable Persons include young people less than 18 years of age, adults with learning difficulties or physical disability, and frail, elderly people. The aims of the Council within this policy are:

- to be mindful of the general welfare, health and development of Children and Vulnerable Persons and to respond where appropriate as a local government organisation.
- to ensure that whilst Members are unlikely to be involved with Children and Vulnerable Persons during the performance of their duties, they are mindful of the risk they face. Councillors, volunteers and employees may request advice or support and may be asked to undertake DBS checking following a risk assessment of any proposed activity.
- to ensure contractors engaged by the Parish Council provide risk assessments of their working practice. Contractors may be asked to undertake DBS checking following a risk assessment of any proposed activity.
- to ensure that facilities and activities offered by the Parish Council are risk assessed and where possible designed to limit risk for Children and Vulnerable Persons to take part or use safely. The Parish Council expects those using its facilities to do so with due care or the consent and the necessary supervision of a parent, carer or other responsible adult.
- to ensure that facilities offered by the Parish Council are inspected on a regular basis. A record of inspection should be retained by the Clerk for the inspection of play and sports facilities. An independent safety inspection by a qualified Rospa Inspection Provider should be provided at least annually for all facilities at Oakwood Park Recreation Ground.

Adopted: Otterbourne Parish Council meeting 21 May 2024