

Laughton-en-le-Morthen Parish Council

Safeguarding Policy

1. Introduction

- 1.1 Everyone has a duty to safeguard children, young people and vulnerable adults.
- 1.2 This policy outlines practises that will promote the safety of children, young people and vulnerable adults using Laughton-en-le-Morthen Parish Council facilities.
- 1.3 This policy will be reviewed regularly.

2. Definitions

- 2.1 Children and young people: anyone under the age of 18 years old.
- 2.2 Vulnerable adult: anyone over 18 who is unable to care for themselves; unable to protect themselves from significant harm or exploitation; or may need community care services.

3. To whom this policy applies

- 3.1 This policy applies to anyone working for, or on behalf of Laughton-en-le-Morthen in a paid, voluntary or commissioned capacity.

4. Promoting a safe environment

4.1 In order to promote a safe environment for children, young people and vulnerable adults, Laughton-en-le-Morthen Parish Council wishes to promote a safeguarding culture in its premises and activity areas. In order to achieve this, Laughton-en-le-Morthen Parish Council will:

- provide safe facilities and undertake regular safety assessments;
- ensure that employees and councillors are aware of safeguarding expectations.
- make available on public noticeboards and to employees and councillors contact details (see point 8 below).

4.2 Employees, councillors and volunteers all have a duty to protect children, young people and vulnerable adults but are not responsible for deciding whether abuse is taking place. If they have concerns, these should be passed on to the authorities as detailed below as soon as possible.

5. Allegations against staff and volunteers

5.1 All staff should take care not to place themselves in a vulnerable position with a child or vulnerable adult. It is always advisable for interviews or work with individual children or parents to be conducted in view of other adults.

5.2 No attempt should be made to investigate or act on any allegation before consultation with the Rotherham Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) - contact details below:

Rotherham Safeguarding Children

24/7 advice, help and support: 01709 336080

Rotherham Safeguarding Adults

All safeguarding adult referrals should be made to Community Health and Adult Social Care Direct: 01709 822330 or the allocated Social Worker.

Area-wide

South Yorkshire Police (non-emergency) – 101

NSPCC Helpline – 0808 800 5000

Childline Helpline – 0800 11111

You should always call 999 in an emergency – for example when someone's life is at risk or someone is seriously injured or critically ill.

Adopted - 29th March 2023 Minute Ref 23/28.6

Last Reviewed March 2025 Min 25/32.3

Next Review - March 2026