

Steeton with Eastburn Parish Council



Child Protection Policy and Procedures

Reviewed	Ratified by Parish Council	Planned date of next review
Adopted March 2013	March 2013	
December 2014	December 2014	
December 2015	December 2015	
December 2016		December 2017

	Print name	Signature	Date
Chairman			

Steeton with Eastburn Parish Council

Child Protection Policy Statement

Steeton with Eastburn Parish Council is fully committed to safeguarding the welfare of all children and young people. It recognises its responsibility to take all reasonable steps to promote safe practice and to protect children from harm, abuse and exploitation. Steeton with Eastburn Parish Council acknowledges its duty to act appropriately to any allegations, reports or suspicions of abuse.

Paid staff and volunteers, who regularly come into contact with vulnerable groups, will endeavour to work together to encourage the development of an ethos which embraces difference and diversity and respects the rights of children, young people and adults.

In implementing this child protection policy Steeton with Eastburn Parish Council will:

- Ensure that all responsible adults understand their legal and moral responsibility to protect children and young people from harm, abuse and exploitation;
- Ensure that all responsible adults understand their responsibility to work to the standards that are detailed in the organisation's *Child Protection Procedures* and work at all times towards maintaining high standards of practice;
- Ensure that all responsible adults understand their duty to report concerns that arise about a child or young person, or a responsible adults' conduct towards a child/young person, to the organisation's named person for child protection;
- Ensure that the named person understands his/her responsibility to refer any child protection concerns to the statutory child protection agencies (i.e. Police and/or Social Work);
- Ensure that any procedures relating to the conduct of responsible adults are implemented in a consistent and equitable manner;
- Provide opportunities for all responsible adults to develop their skills and knowledge particularly in relation to the welfare and protection of children and young people;
- Ensure that children and young people are enabled to express their ideas and views on a wide range of issues and will have access to the organisation's *Complaints Procedure*;
- Ensure that parents/carers are encouraged to be involved in the work of the organisation and, when requested, have access to all guidelines and procedures;
- Endeavour to keep up-to-date with national developments relating to the welfare and protection of children and young people.

Child Protection Guidelines and Procedures

Introduction

These procedures have been designed to ensure the welfare and protection of any child and/or young person who accesses the facilities provided by Steeton with Eastburn Parish Council. The procedures recognise that child protection can be a very difficult subject for workers to deal with to the extent that it is sometimes easier to close your eyes to what is happening or believe that it is somebody else's problem to deal with. Steeton with Eastburn Parish Council is committed to the belief that protecting children and young people is everybody's responsibility and therefore the aim here is to provide guidelines that will enable all workers and volunteers to act appropriately to any concerns that arise in respect of a child/young person.

Steeton with Eastburn Parish Council confirms its commitment to equality of opportunity in all areas of its work. All individuals will be treated in a fair and equal manner and in accordance with the law regardless of gender, marital status, race, religion, colour, age, disability or sexual orientation.

The Council will not discriminate in any area of employment, or in the provision of its services to the public, and accepts its responsibilities to comply with all relevant legislation including the Sex Discrimination Acts 1975 and 1986, the Equal Pay Act 1970, the Race Relations Act 1976, the Disability Discrimination Act 1995, and the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1975

Recognising the Signs and Symptoms of Abuse

Where an organization hosts a regular repeat event, involving children, at the Community Hub, it is the responsibility of the organisation to ensure that all staff members, whether paid or unpaid, undertake training to gain a basic awareness of the signs and symptoms of child abuse. It is also the responsibility of that organization to appoint named persons who are responsible for dealing with any child protection concerns. In their absence, a deputy will always be available for workers to consult with.

All organisations, using the Hub, that come into contact with children must have procedures in place to ensure that any allegation made against a member of staff is dealt with appropriately.

Named person

The named person for child protection will be the clerk to the Council, Rosie Sanderson, who can be contacted at clerk@steeton-with-eastburnparishcouncil.gov.uk or 01729 825944