

Catterick Parish Council

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CHILD PROTECTION and vulnerable adult POLICY

Policy Statement:

Catterick Parish Council is committed to ensuring that children and vulnerable adults are protected and kept safe from harm whilst they are engaged in any activity associated with the Parish Council.

Policy Objective:

To ensure that where possible all facilities and activities offered by the Parish Council are designed and maintained to limit risk to children and vulnerable people.

To promote the general welfare, health, and development of children and vulnerable adults by being aware of child protection and vulnerable adults issues and to be able to respond where appropriate as a local government organisation.

To develop procedures in recording and responding to accidents and complaints and to alleged or suspected incidents of abuse and neglect.

As the Parish Council does not directly provide care or supervision services to children, it expects all children using its facilities to do so with the consent and the necessary supervision of a parent or other responsible adult.

Aims

The aim of this policy document is to guide members of Catterick Parish Council should any child protection issue arise during their work.

Responsibilities & Procedures

Councillors will adhere to the 'List of Recommended Behaviour' namely:

- A minimum of two adults present when supervising children and vulnerable adults.
- Not to play physical contact games.
- Adults to wear appropriate clothing at all times
- Ensure that accidents are recorded in an accident book.
- Never do anything of a personal nature for a young person.

The Council will:

- Keep records in an incident book of any allegations a young person or vulnerable adult may make to any committee member or volunteer. Incident book to be presented to the Parish Council meeting for inspection

- Ensure facilities offered by the Parish Council (play parks) have been inspected on a regular basis and at least annually by a representative of RoSPA or a similar organisation.
- Share information about child protection and good practice with councillors, employees, volunteers, parents, and carers.

Declaration

Catterick Parish Council is fully committed to safeguarding the well-being of children and vulnerable adults by protecting them from physical, sexual, emotional harm and neglect.

All members of Catterick Parish Council should read the Council's Child Protection and Vulnerable Adult Policy. Having read the Policy, they should be proactive in providing a safe environment for children and vulnerable people who are involved in Parish Council activities.

If there are concerns but no immediate danger, ring North Yorkshire customer services centre on **0300 131 2 131**. This includes outside of office hours

This Policy will be reviewed on a regular basis.

Adopted 12th May 2025