



Whiteley Town Council

Child and vulnerable adults protection policy Adopted 14th May 2012 Amended for council name change February 2015

Whiteley Town Council is committed to ensuring that children, young people and vulnerable adults are protected and kept safe from harm whilst they are engaged in any activity associated with the Council and to establishing the following principles:

1. Anyone under the age of 18 years is considered to be a child
2. A vulnerable adult is anyone over 18 who is:
 - Unable to care for themselves
 - Unable to protect themselves from significant harm or exploitation
 - Or may be in need of community care services
1. The welfare of the child and vulnerable adult is paramount however all will be expected to behave politely and reasonably towards other children and adults during Council activities.
2. All children, young people and vulnerable adults, have the right to protection from abuse and for their rights, feelings and views to be understood.
3. All suspicions and allegations of abuse will be taken seriously and responded to swiftly and appropriately.

In line with these principles the Town Council will aim to:

4. Create a healthy and safe environment for all activities, where children, young people and vulnerable adults feel safe and secure
5. Promote the general welfare, health and full development of children, young people and vulnerable adults during activities
6. Promote and implement appropriate procedures to safeguard the well-being of children, young people and vulnerable adults and protect them from abuse.

7. Understand the rights, wishes and feelings of children, young people and vulnerable adults and ensure that they are listened to.
8. Ensure that any allegations made by a child or vulnerable adult are not allowed to go unchallenged, and that any allegations and suspicions are investigated, recorded and acted upon promptly.
9. Ensure that councillors, staff and volunteers are well informed, supported and enabled to provide the best possible practice
10. Ensure that all new employees/volunteers who will work with, or come into contact with, children , young people and vulnerable adults in the course of their work activities will complete a disclosure form from the Criminal Records Bureau to ensure that there are no irregularities in their background that may give cause for concern
11. Ensure that all new employees/volunteers will be provided with the Child and Vulnerable Adult protection Policy and asked to sign to confirm that they understand it and will abide by it.
12. ***The Council's Child and Vulnerable Adult Protection Officer is the Town Clerk who will ensure that procedures are put in place to enable the aims of the Town Council to be met and to initiate appropriate action should any allegation of improper conduct be made.***