

East Tisted Parish Council Safeguarding Children, Young people and Vulnerable Adults Policy 2025

SECTION 1 Policy Statement

Everyone has a duty to safeguard children, young people and vulnerable adults. This policy promotes good practice in safeguarding for those using Parish Council facilities and attending Parish Council events. The Parish Council will review it annually.

Definitions:

Children and young people: Anyone under the age of 18 years

Vulnerable Adult: 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

SECTION 2 Promoting a safe environment

In order to promote a safe environment for children, young people and vulnerable adults, the Parish Council will:

- Ensure that employees, Councillors and leaders of activities in the parish or in/on parish facilities, are aware of the safeguarding expectations.
- Members of staff and volunteers who have regular unsupervised contact with children, young people or vulnerable adults during the course of their duties MUST undergo appropriate Disclosure and Barring Service (“DBS”) checks BEFORE commencement of such duties.
- Display on the Parish Council website a copy of this safeguarding policy

Expectations of behaviour

All users of Parish Council facilities, organisers of parish events and volunteers should:

- Ensure that communications, behaviour and interaction is appropriate and professional.
- Treat each other with respect and show consideration for other groups using the Parish Council facilities.
- Refrain from any behaviour that involves racism, sexism, homophobia, and bullying and in addition, report any instances of such behaviour to the Chair of the Parish Council, Parish Clerk or parents/carers, as appropriate.

SECTION 3 Safe working practice

All users of Parish Facilities must follow the policy and procedures at all times. For example they should:

- Ensure that photos or videos of individuals are not taken without permission from their parents/carers.
- Ensure they have access to a first aid kit and telephone and know fire procedures.

SECTION 4 Allegations against staff and volunteers

The Parish Council should follow the procedures for managing allegations against staff/volunteers on the SBC Safeguarding website. No attempt should be made to investigate or take action before consultation with the designated officer of the local council.

The Parish Council is committed to ensuring the safety of all users of our services and facilities and takes its responsibilities seriously. The Parish Council confirms this safeguarding policy will be updated as and when such legislative/best practice changes take place or at least annually.