



# Mapledurwell & Up Nately Parish Council

## SAFEGUARDING POLICY

### 1. Policy Statement

Everyone has a duty to safeguard children, young people and vulnerable adults.

Mapledurwell & Up Nately Parish Council will undertake all reasonable measures to promote the safety of children, young people and vulnerable adults using Parish Council Premises and Facilities.

Promoting a safe environment The Parish Council has powers to provide and equip buildings for sports, social or educational use and to provide recreation grounds, open spaces and a wide range of recreational facilities. The Parish Council is committed to ensuring in so far as reasonably practical that all necessary safety procedures, risk assessments, maintenance schedules and equipment checks are in place and acted upon to ensure the wellbeing and safety of all users and visitors.

This Policy applies to Mapledurwell & Up Nately councillors, employees, contractors and hirers.

However Mapledurwell & Up Nately Parish Council has no direct powers or responsibilities for Community or Children's groups or services. The primary responsibility for the welfare of children or vulnerable adults rests with the responsible adult – parent / carer / sports club / coach / team leader.

When using Parish Council facilities or attending events organised by the Parish Council, children, young people or vulnerable adults do so with the consent of a parent, carer, or other responsible adult.

### 2. Definitions

#### 2.1 Children and young people

- Anyone under the age of 18 years.

#### 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 be in need of community care services.

#### 2.3 Child abuse

- Somebody may abuse or neglect a child by inflicting harm, or by failing to act to prevent harm.

### 3. Parish Council Facilities

3.1 Children's playground – equipment replaced (other than swings) in 2015. Maintenance carried out by Hampshire Community Payback Team in 2016. Weekly safety checks undertaken by Basingstoke & Deane District Council Inspector.

Used by – younger children supervised by parent / carer /responsible adult.  
Community Payback team – young people supervised by team leader (Hants & Isle of Wight Community Rehab Company).

- 3.2 Tennis courts – Used by keyholding families from Mapledurwell & Up Nately only. Use by children with the families’ supervision, approval.
- 3.3 Pavilion - Used by Chineham youth football team (Chineham Tigers) with supervision of appropriate adults – team coach, club members.
- 3.4 Recreation Ground – used as above.  
Also for public use (mostly dog walkers), any children present are the responsibility of their parents / carers.
- 3.5 Village Hall – Owned and responsibility of Village Hall Committee, not Parish Council. Nursery School held in the hall uses outdoor Parish Council land.

It has been minuted that the Monkey House Nursery School wishes to be responsible for its own portable outdoor fencing system to keep the children safe and secure while outdoors under supervision of the Nursery staff.

#### **4. Informing the Appropriate Authorities**

While safeguarding is a general responsibility, it is not a general responsibility to determine if any abuse is taking place. Any concerns should be reported to the appropriate authorities.

Children's Services is dealt with by Hampshire County Council.

From the website <http://www3.hants.gov.uk/childrens-services/childrenandyoungpeople/child-protection.htm>

‘If you have any concerns because you think that a child might be being abused you should contact the Children’s Services Department.

- ‘During office hours (8.30am.5.00pm) Children's Services: 0300 555 1384
- ‘At all other times out-of-hours Service: 0300 555 1373
- ‘For all emergency situations call 999.’

#### **5. Law Enforcement**

The Parish Council meets regularly with the local Community Police Officer who monitors, and acts to prevent, any anti-social or potentially illegal behaviour on Parish Council premises (and indeed throughout the Parish).

*October 2016*

Susan Turner, Clerk and RFO