



EDLESBOROUGH PARISH COUNCIL

Safeguarding Policy

Edlesborough Parish Council (EPC) acknowledges that every child or young person under the age of 18, who uses Edlesborough Memorial Hall, known as “this facility” should be able to do so in an enjoyable and safe environment and be protected from abuse. EPC recognises that this is the responsibility of every adult using this facility to ensure this.

EPC is aware that there are some roles within sport, dance or drama activities where adults have responsibility for, authority and influence over young people and therefore have an ethical obligation to safeguard and protect young people from exploitation. Whilst legally young people aged 16 and 17 have reached the age of consent for sexual activity, any inappropriate sexual relations with young people aged 16 or 17 will be considered a breach of a ‘Position of Trust.’

Concerns identified as child abuse will fall within the following categories:

Physical Abuse:

A child is physically hurt or injured by an adult or an adult gives alcohol or drugs to a child or young person.

Neglect:

A child’s basic physical needs are consistently not met or they are regularly left alone or unsupervised.

Sexual Abuse:

An adult or peer uses a child or young person to meet their own sexual needs.

Emotional Abuse:

Persistent criticism, denigrating or putting unrealistic expectations on a child or young person.

Bullying:

Persistent or repeated hostile and intimidating behaviour towards a child or young person
Incidents of poor practice occur when the needs of children and young people are not afforded the necessary priority, so as their welfare is compromised. Hazing is any action or situation, with or without the consent of the participants, which recklessly, intentionally, or unintentionally endangers the mental, physical, or emotional wellbeing of a child or young person.

Guidance for Class Leaders & Club Officials

Any club or organisation using this facility:

- Must complete a safeguarding risk assessment. All coaches/adults must be briefed on the assessment and their responsibilities.
- Is responsible for continuing to ensure the environment is safe and for implementing your club’s safeguarding children policy and procedures.

- Coaches/Adults working with children must have an in-date DBS Check and should have completed some safeguarding training.
- Must ensure the ratio of coach/leader to different age groups of children is appropriate.
- Must ensure that parents/carers give informed consent for their child/children to participate in the activity. When requesting consent, you have the ideal opportunity to be clear about what is expected of the children and their parents/carers in line with this guidance.
- Must ensure they retain a written record of parent/carer consent.
- Must ensure that any children with additional medical or disability needs are discussed with parents/carers, they can provide effective support to facilitate their involvement and appropriately update your risk assessments.

Listening To Children

While many families have good support systems in place, others may not and for some children the experiences may be very difficult. You may be one of the first people outside the family unit that a child has met in recent times. It's important you know that some children may be struggling for various reasons, including:

- Lacking confidence;
- Being confused and stressed about how to behave in different situations;
- They or someone may be grieving because someone they love has died;
- They may have been neglected emotionally and/or physically – through lack of food and/or care;
- Children with learning disabilities may find it particularly confusing, if their routine has changed.

You may also have seen media coverage on the increase in:

- Domestic violence – significantly impacting children emotionally and/or physically in households where this has happened;
- Online grooming of children;
- Cyberbullying.

Please check-in with the children you are coaching/working with, and ask them how they've been and how they're doing.

Ways to report your concerns

You have an important role in safeguarding children. If you are worried about a child participating in your club or activity, it is vital you report your concerns. Doing nothing is not an option.

Any adult or young person with concerns about any person or child using this facility must report their concerns:

- To the Police – 999 or 101

- To Children's Social Care - [Report a concern about a child | Buckinghamshire Council](#)
For **urgent safeguarding concerns** the quickest way to let our MASH Team know is by calling them on:
[01296 383 962](tel:01296383962) between 9am to 5:30pm Monday to Thursday, 9am to 5pm Friday.
[0800 999 7677](tel:08009997677) before 9am, after 5:30pm (5pm on a Friday) or at weekends (Emergency Duty Team).
- To your club Welfare Officer
- ChildLine – 0800 1111
- Child Protection in Sport Unit – 0116 234 7278/7280 or cpsu@nspcc.org.uk
- NSPCC Helpline – Freephone 0808 800 500 or help@nspcc.org.uk

Organisations who support children include:

- NSPCC - <https://www.nspcc.org.uk/>
- ChildLine - <https://www.childline.org.uk/>
- CEOP - <https://www.ceop.police.uk/Safety-Centre/>
- ChildNet - <https://www.childnet.com/>
- Samaritans - <https://www.samaritans.org/how-we-can-help/contact-samaritan/>
- Stonewall - <https://www.stonewall.org.uk/>
- YoungMinds - <https://www.youngminds.org.uk/>
- DisrespectNoBody - <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/disrespect-nobody-campaign>

Signed for and on behalf of Edlesborough Parish Council	
Name	Cllr Rosie Booth
Signature	<i>R Booth</i>
Position	Chair
Adopted	18/08/2025
Reviewed	17/09/26
Minute Record	Safeguarding Policy