

Chesil Bank Parish Council

Child Protection Policy

The welfare of the child is paramount.
All children, whatever their age, culture, disability, gender, language, racial origin, religious beliefs and/or sexual identity, have the right to protection from abuse.
All suspicions and allegations of abuse will be taken seriously and responded to swiftly and appropriately.
All staff (paid/unpaid) working in sport have a responsibility to report concerns to the appropriate officer.

Child Protection Policy Statement

Chesil Bank Parish Council has a duty of care to safeguard all children involved in **Group Activities** from harm. All children have a right to protection, and the needs of disabled children and others who may be particularly vulnerable must be taken into account.

Chesil Bank Parish Council will ensure the safety and protection of all children involved in **Group Activities** through adherence to the Child Protection guidelines adopted by **Chesil Bank Parish Council** (A child is defined as a person under the age of 18 (The Children Act 1989)).

Policy aims

The aim of the **Chesil Bank Parish Council**

Child Protection Policy is to promote good practice:

- Providing children and young people with appropriate safety and protection
- Allow all Members/volunteers to make informed and confident responses to specific child protection issues

Incidents that must be reported/recorded

If any of the following occur you should report this immediately to the Chesil Bank Parish Council and record the incident. You should also ensure the parents of the child are informed:

- If you accidentally hurt a child
- If he/she seems distressed in any manner
- If a child appears to be sexually aroused by your actions
- If a child misunderstands or misinterprets something you have done

Responding to allegations or suspicions

It is not the responsibility of anyone within **Chesil Bank Parish Council** to decide whether or not child abuse has taken place. However, there is a responsibility to act on any concerns through contact with the appropriate authorities.

Chesil Bank Parish Council will assure all members that it will fully support and protect anyone who in good faith reports his/her concern that a colleague is, or may be, abusing a child.

Where there is a complaint there may be three types of investigation:

- A criminal investigation
- A child protection investigation

