Welcome. Every adult working with young and at-risk people in sport knows how important safeguarding is, and despite best intentions keeping up-to-date is difficult because we often feel overwhelmed with information. At Active Essex we understand this, so our Safeguarding newsletters will just take a very quick look at some current topics and resources, with links to more information, if you want it!

Therapy support services for young people:
A recent safeguarding concern within the county has highlighted the need for clubs and parents to be aware of the need to make appropriate checks for sports therapists and other support services they may utilise. All bona fide therapists, like coaches, should be happy to provide a valid DBS certificate along with qualifications and insurance documentation.

Parents in Sport Week 2017:
Parents in Sport Week takes place on 2–8 October 2017. The focus this year continues to be on highlighting the valuable role that parents play and the positive influence they have in ensuring young people develop to their full potential and enjoy their time playing sport.

This is a great opportunity for clubs and organisations to highlight the work they do with parents and some ideas for activities could include:
- Special event to include parents in activity and/or recognise parents, with the young people taking the lead.
- Meeting with parents to discuss their values and desires and decide collective agreements and goals.
- Set up an information session for parents on training plans and how parents can support their child’s learning.
- Discussion around parental behaviour during competition and how all parties can support each other in the best interest of the young people (show parents the CPSU’s video: ‘My Magic Sports Kit’).
- MORE: https://thecpsu.org.uk/resource-library/2013/my-magic-sports-kit/

Anti-Bullying support:
Active Essex has recently produced a new resource for young people taking part in sport. The credit card sized Stop Bullying in Sport is a quick guide to bullying and how to get help.

Active Essex is committed to supporting the great work of many organizations and partners around the county in driving-out bullying incidents in sport. The good news is that Active Essex’s own surveys of young people, carried-out at annual School Games events, indicate a very low incidence of young people experiencing bullying in sport.

The importance of separate policies and procedures for safeguarding children and adults:
Many sports organisations have only recently started to understand and address safeguarding responsibilities in relation to adults at risk and as a result safeguarding vulnerable adults has often been treated just as an addition to safeguarding children.

Important reasons why the two should be separated include: legislation is different; issues for children and differ; definitions and terms can also differ; reporting and handling procedures are not the same; joint policies often default to the language of safeguarding children.

If you are involved in creating policy documents for your organisation, or have another interest, this link has great advice:

www.activeessex.org/safeguarding
To talk to an Active Essex Safeguarding Officer, call: 03330 137827 or 07894964327