The NSPCC have set out five steps to help you consider what updates your organisation might need to make to your policies and procedures to ensure children are kept safe.

1. The principles of safeguarding remain the same but do you need to amend your policies and procedures?
2. What is the role of the nominated child protection lead and how will you continue to recruit new staff or volunteers safely?
3. How will you continue to work with children and families and how will you respond to non-attendance?
4. Are there any specific areas of concern? Including online safety, domestic abuse and mental health.
5. How will you report concerns about a child?
Changes to DBS

The Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) have made some temporary changes to their guidelines and processes to support the fight against the coronavirus pandemic. These include amendments to the ID checking guidelines for urgent standard and enhanced checks - and basic checks when submitted through a Responsible Organisation. DBS have also published a safeguarding factsheet for community volunteers to address specific concerns that people involved in supporting their community may have at this time.

For all of the DBS and coronavirus related resources please visit the DBS COVID-19 guidance page which brings together their factsheets, updated guidelines and frequently asked questions.
Safeguarding During Covid-19

Mental health and wellbeing
The pandemic and social distancing measures are placing a number of additional pressures on young people’s mental health and wellbeing. They may be experiencing increased feelings of anxiety, low mood or loneliness and some will need additional support at this time.

If your club or activity is keeping in touch with members virtually you can start a conversation about this by signposting young people to specialist information. Such as, Childline's online coronavirus advice or Young Minds' coronavirus and mental health pages.

We’ve also published new information about mental health and wellbeing in sport looking at some of the ways clubs can create a mentally healthy and safe environment.

NSPCC Helpline

If you're worried about a child, even if you're unsure, you can speak to the NSPCC helpline about your concerns on 0808 800 5000 or email help@nspcc.org.uk

Please continue to recommend Childline to the young people in your clubs and activities on 0800 1111.
What does Covid-19 mean for Safeguarding in Sport?
With sport and activity clubs closed and a move to online sport and activity sessions, safeguarding in sport has changed.

Safeguarding Adults at Risk Through the Coronavirus Epidemic: What do Volunteers Need to Know to Keep Themselves and Others Safe?
New Guidance - Adult Safeguarding during the Coronavirus Emergency

By operating virtually, running online sessions and not being able to see members and volunteers face-to-face, clubs and organisations are having to adapt to very different circumstances right now. However, this does not lessen their Safeguarding responsibilities – instead, there are a number of new considerations that need to be thought about.

To help, the Ann Craft Trust has created a new guide for sports clubs and organisations to help them understand their Adult Safeguarding responsibilities during this period. This new resource includes an overview of actions clubs/organisations can take to make sure they are providing as much support as possible for members. You can access the new guide here: https://learn.sportenglandclubmatters.com/mod/resource/view.php?id=685

From advice about checking how procedures may have been impacted locally to guidance on what should be considered when delivering virtual sessions, the guide is really valuable and we hope you will be able to share it with your colleagues and any clubs/groups you work with! Social media posts have also been included in the attached to help you share this resource.

Safeguarding for virtual activities: Safeguarding guidance from the NSPCC covers online safety, including some good practice where activities are being live-streamed. The NSPCC are working to further develop this guidance and the CPSU will be adapting this for the sports sector.