

Safeguarding During Covid-19

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Working together guidance - December 2020 update



In December 2020, Working together to safeguard children was updated. The CPSU have put together a summary, which outlines the key changes and what this means for sport and physical activity organisations.

The update includes changes to information sharing, the homelessness duty and domestic abuse. The following areas were added or amended.

- Contextual safeguarding
- Mental health concerns
- Domestic abuse
- Criminal exploitation
- Information sharing
- Homelessness duty

To read the full summary click **HERE**







Updating Safeguarding Policies Procedures Coronavirus



The NSPCC have <u>set out five steps</u> 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



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 <u>ID checking guidelines</u> for urgent standard and enhanced checks - and basic checks when submitted through a Responsible Organisation. DBS have also published a <u>safeguarding factsheet</u> <u>for community volunteers</u> 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 <u>DBS</u> <u>COVID-19 guidance page</u> which brings together their factsheets, updated guidelines and frequently asked questions.







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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 <u>mental health and wellbeing in</u> <u>sport</u> looking at some of the ways clubs can create a mentally healthy and safe environment.

Free online safety workshops for parents

As part of Parents in Sport Week 2020, the NSPCC and O2 are offering free workshops on online safety for groups of parents and carers.

https://thecpsu.org.uk/news/2020-10-free-online-safety-workshops-for-parents/











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.

Find out more

Safeguarding Adults at Risk Through the Coronavirus Epidemic: What do Volunteers Need to Know to Keep Themselves and Others Safe?

Find out more





Safeguarding for Virtual Activity



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.

<u>Safeguarding for virtual activities:</u> 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.



