



Our anti-bullying policy

The statement Our anti-bullying policy sets out how we feel about bullying behaviour in the club and organisation, what we'll do to tackle it and how we'll support children and young people who experience or display bullying behaviour.

Note: The terms 'child' and 'young person' describe any person under the age of 18. References to 'parents' should be read as parents and carers inclusively.

Bullying Behaviour:

- ✓ all forms of bullying behaviour will be acted upon
- ✓ everybody in the club or organisation has a responsibility to work together to stop bullying behaviour
- ✓ bullying behaviour can include online as well as offline behaviour
- ✓ bullying behaviour can include:
 - physically pushing, kicking, hitting, pinching, etc.
 - name calling, spreading rumours, persistent teasing and humiliation or the continual ignoring of others
 - posting of derogatory or abusive comments, videos or images on social media
 - racist behaviour - including racially aggravated remarks, name-calling, racial exclusion
 - homophobic and trans phobic comments
 - sexist slurs
 - offensive comments, taunts or gestures
 - sexual comments, suggestions or behaviour
 - unwanted physical contact Our club or organisation will ...

Our Club Will:

- ✓ recognise its duty of care and responsibility to safeguard all players from harm
- ✓ promote and implement this anti-bullying policy in addition to our safeguarding policy and procedures
- ✓ ensure that any form of bullying behaviour is not tolerated or condoned
- ✓ require all members of the club or organisation to sign up and be agreeable to this policy.
- ✓ take action to investigate and respond to any reports of bullying behaviour from children and young people

- ✓ encourage and facilitate children and young people to play an active part in developing and adopting
- ✓ a code of conduct for behaviour
- ✓ ensure that coaches are given access to information, guidance and training on bullying

Each participant, coach, volunteer, or official, will:

- ✓ encourage individuals to speak out about bullying behaviour
- ✓ respect every child's need for, and right to, an environment where safety , security, praise
- ✓ recognition and opportunity for taking responsibility are available
- ✓ respect the feelings and values of others
- ✓ recognise that everyone is important and equal, and that other differences make each of us special and worthy of being valued
- ✓ show appreciation of others by acknowledging individual qualities, contributions and progress
- ✓ ensure safety by having rules and practices carefully explained and demonstrated for all to see
- ✓ report incidents of bullying behaviour they see – by doing nothing, you are condoning the behaviour

Supporting Children

- ✓ we'll let children know who will listen to and support them
- ✓ we'll create an "open door" ethos where children feel confident to talk to an adult about bullying behaviour or any other issue that affects them
- ✓ potential barriers for talking (including those associated with a child's disability or impairment) will be acknowledged and addressed at the onset to enable children to speak out
- ✓ we'll make sure that children have access to helpline numbers
- ✓ anyone who reports an incident of bullying will be listened to carefully and reports will be taken seriously
- ✓ any reported experience of bullying will be investigated and will be involve listening carefully to everyone involved
- ✓ children experiencing bullying will be supported and helped to uphold their right to play and live in a safe environment
- ✓ those who display bullying behaviour will be supported and encouraged to develop better relationships
- ✓ we'll make sure that sanctions are appropriate and fair

Support for Parents

- ✓ parents will be advised on the clubs anti-bullying policy and practice
- ✓ any experience of bullying behaviour will be discussed with the child's parents
- ✓ parents will be consulted on action to be taken (for both victim and child displaying the bullying behaviour) and we'll agree on these actions together
- ✓ information and advice on coping with bullying will be made available
- ✓ support will be offered to parents, including information from other agencies or support lines

Useful Contacts

NSPCC Helpline Tel: 0808 800 5000 Website: nspcc.org.uk

Childline Tel: 08081111 Website: childline.org.uk

Kidscape Website: kidscape.org.uk

Anti-Bullying Alliance Website: antibullyingalliance.org.uk

Further information NSPCC Child Protection in Sport Unit (CPSU) Information and resources related to this topic are available at: thecpsu.org.uk/help-advice/topics/anti-bullying OR thecpsu.org.uk/resource-library/best-practices