



Safeguarding and Protecting Children, Young People and Vulnerable Adults

1. Introduction

Lockleaze Sports Centre is committed to providing a safe, supportive, and welcoming environment for all individuals, including children, young people, and vulnerable adults. The Centre recognises its duty of care in promoting the welfare and safeguarding of all visitors and users. This policy outlines our approach to protecting vulnerable individuals and sets forth our responsibilities to ensure their safety.

2. Key Definitions

- **Child:** Any person under the age of 18.
- **Vulnerable Adult:** A person aged 18 or over who may be unable to protect themselves from abuse or exploitation due to physical or mental impairments, age, or other specific circumstances.
- **Abuse:** Any form of harm, whether physical, emotional, sexual, financial, or neglect, inflicted intentionally or unintentionally.

3. Aims of the Policy

- Ensure the safety and well-being of children and vulnerable adults involved in activities at Lockleaze Sports Centre.
- Promote best safeguarding practices among staff, volunteers, and users.
- Create a culture of transparency, openness, and respect.
- Provide clear procedures for reporting concerns or suspicions of abuse.

4. Responsibilities

Management

- Implement and review safeguarding policies and procedures regularly.
- Ensure all staff and volunteers receive safeguarding training.
- Appoint a **Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL)** who will oversee all safeguarding matters.
- Foster a culture where safeguarding is a priority, and everyone is encouraged to report concerns.

Staff and Volunteers

- Be familiar with the safeguarding policy and follow it at all times.
- Complete mandatory safeguarding training.
- Report any concerns about a child or vulnerable adult's welfare to the DSL without delay.
- Never engage in inappropriate behaviour that could harm a child or vulnerable adult.
- Ensure that activities are carried out in a way that promotes the safety and well-being of all participants.

Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL)

- Serve as the main point of contact for safeguarding issues.
- Handle reports of abuse confidentially and sensitively.
- Liaise with local authorities, police, or other appropriate agencies in cases of suspected abuse.
- Ensure safeguarding records are kept securely and appropriately.

5. Recruitment and Training

- All staff and volunteers working with children or vulnerable adults will undergo appropriate background checks, including DBS checks.
- Staff and volunteers must complete safeguarding training upon recruitment and refresher courses every year.
- The Centre will provide role-specific training where required, ensuring that all personnel understand their safeguarding responsibilities.

6. Code of Conduct

- Treat all children, young people, and vulnerable adults with dignity and respect.
- Never engage in or condone inappropriate behaviour such as bullying, harassment, or any form of exploitation.
- Avoid being alone with a child or vulnerable adult unless absolutely necessary.
- Physical contact should only occur in the context of sports activities and must always be appropriate, ensuring the comfort and understanding of the individual involved.
- Do not share personal contact information with children or vulnerable adults.

7. Procedures for Reporting Concerns

- **Immediate Danger:** If a child or vulnerable adult is in immediate danger, contact the police (999) immediately.
- **Reporting Concerns:** Any concerns or suspicions of abuse should be reported immediately to the DSL.
 - **DSL Contact:** Craig Capel
 - Concerns can be raised in person, via phone, or by email.
Email: ccapel@lockleazesportscentre.co.uk
Phone: 07735 285 008
- **Confidentiality:** All reports will be handled in a confidential manner. Information will only be shared with those who need to know to protect the child or vulnerable adult.
- The DSL will assess the situation and, where necessary, contact external agencies such as children's services or adult safeguarding services.

8. Types of Abuse

- **Physical Abuse:** Hitting, shaking, biting, or any physical harm.
- **Emotional Abuse:** Persistent emotional maltreatment or threats that cause severe and lasting effects.
- **Sexual Abuse:** Involvement of a child or vulnerable adult in any form of sexual activity.
- **Neglect:** Failure to provide necessary care, guidance, or supervision, putting a person at risk.
- **Financial Abuse:** Taking advantage of a vulnerable adult's financial resources without consent.

9. Whistleblowing

Any staff or volunteers who have concerns about another member of staff's behaviour toward children or vulnerable adults are encouraged to report their concerns immediately. Whistleblowers will be protected and supported for raising legitimate concerns.

10. Policy Review

This policy will be reviewed annually or sooner if there are changes in legislation, best practices, or safeguarding concerns within the Centre. Feedback from staff, volunteers, and external agencies will be considered as part of the review process.

Owner:

Signed:

Date:

Approved By:

Signed:

Date:

Policy Review Date:

For further information or to raise a concern, please contact:

Lockleaze Sports Centre Designated Safeguarding Lead

Craig Capel

077352 85008

ccapel@lockleazesportscentre.co.uk

or,

[Concerns about a child \(bristol.gov.uk\)](https://www.bristol.gov.uk/concerns-about-a-child)

[Report suspected abuse: safeguarding adults at risk \(bristol.gov.uk\)](https://www.bristol.gov.uk/report-suspected-abuse-safeguarding-adults-at-risk)