Safeguarding in your pocket

For Clubs

2025 - 2026



we can move

Active Gloucestershire

Safeguarding in Sport & Physical Activity

What is safeguarding?

Safeguarding is the action taken to promote welfare of children and adults.

Safeguarding is **Everyone's responsibility.**

Find out more here:

SCAN ME



Sport England NGB finder



If your club is affiliated to a National Governing Body (NGB) or could be affiliated to one, you'll be able to find the details on the Sport England page below.

There are specific policies and procedures for different sports, and it's important to pick the correct one for yours.

Being affiliated comes with a number of benefits, such as free and discounted rates on events and training, membership insurance, support with vetting of staff and volunteers and support when things go wrong.

If you're not currently affiliated, check it out!

SCAN ME

This guide was produced by Active Gloucestershire and supported by:

we can move

Active Gloucestershire

SPORT ENGLAND

UK COACHING

ann craft trust
acting against abuse

buddle.
supported by SPORT ENGLAND

Child Protection in Sport Unit

Gloucestershire Safeguarding Children Partnership

GLOUCESTERSHIRE CONSTABULARY

NHS

GCC

Self assessment tools for your club



The **CPSU** and **Ann Craft Trust** have a great variety of resources to support you and your club with safeguarding, including a self assessment tool.

For Children and Young People safeguarding, check out the CPSU self assessment tool here:

For Adult Safeguarding, check out the Ann Craft Trust self assessment tool here:

Important Contacts in Gloucestershire

Use the details below to report your concerns.

If you are not sure who to contact, **Gloucestershire Children and Families Front Door** should be your first call for anyone under 18 and the **adults help desk** for anyone over 18. If your concerns are around school, please contact the school's designated safeguarding lead or their deputy.

Gloucestershire Children and Families Front Door

Open from 9am to 5pm
Telephone: 01452 426565
Email: childrenshelpdesk@gloucestershire.gov.uk

Outside of office hours, contact the Emergency Duty Team (EDT) on 01452 61 4194 or,
if you have concerns about the immediate safety of the child or you believe a serious criminal offence has been committed please contact the **Police** at any time on **999.**

LADO (Local Authority Designated Officer)

The role of the LADO is to be involved in the management and oversight of allegations against people who work with children - 01452 426994

Safeguarding Adults in Gloucestershire

For adults at risk, call the Adults Help Desk on 01452 426868.

Gloucestershire Safeguarding Children Partnership

The GSCP is a good space to find an overview of different services.

Mash (Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub)

The MASH receive all new contacts when there is concern that a child could be at risk. The team will work with partners to determine the level of risk to the child and how we should respond to that risk.

Standards for safeguarding and protecting ALL participants in Sport

Those involved in running sports clubs should be aware of and recognise:

- The different types of abuse
- The signs of abuse and poor coaching practice
- Boundaries of what is acceptable and unacceptable behaviour and situations involving those in a position of trust
- How to respond to concerns involving children and adults at risk
- How and where to report concerns involving children and adults at risk

Myth Busters

Myth: Safeguarding is only for children.	**Fact:** We also have a duty to safeguard adults in sport and physical activity.
Myth: We have no problems at our club and don't need to do safeguarding.	**Fact:** Good safeguarding practice protects all participants and staff in the club. A club where you can safely raise concerns and are listened to, is a club that people engage with longer term.
Myth: Lower level concerns can be dealt with at a club level.	**Fact:** Clubs have a duty to act on all concerns, but you must also follow your Club and NGB Safeguarding Policy to make sure concerns are appropriately responded to, referred and recorded.

Sometimes many small things add up to a big thing.
Don't wait with raising a concern.

Active Gloucestershire's Sport Welfare Offer

Active Gloucestershire is one of 42 Active Partnerships in England who work collaboratively with local partners to ensure the power of physical activity and sport can transform lives.

How can the Sport Welfare Officer support you?

Lisa can support your club development opportunities, signposting, safer culture, local training opportunities, networking events, share best practice & raise awareness of safeguarding and welfare for participants at local events.



Get in touch with Lisa:

lisakankowski@activegloucestershire.org

01452 393 617

we can move Active Gloucestershire

Active Gloucestershire Safeguarding

Contact Details

Children and Young People



Nicky Harverson
Email: nickyharverson@activegloucestershire.org
Call: 01452 393607



Rob Toomer
Email: robtoomer@activegloucestershire.org
Call: 01452 393606

Adults



Chris Davis
Email: chrisdavis@activegloucestershire.org
Call: 01452 393611



Ben Langworthy
Email: benlangworthy@activegloucestershire.org
Call: 01452393613

Play Their Way

A child's experience in sport can shape their lifelong attitude toward being active. Many aren't having positive experiences, which puts them off. The Children's Coaching Collaborative believes that child-first coaching is key to changing this and helping children build a lasting, positive relationship with sport & physical activity.

Join the Play Their Way (PTW) community and be the first to receive exclusive child-first coaching tips, exciting event news, inspiring stories, and opportunities to build a movement.

SCAN ME

Join our Gloucestershire PTW ambassador network here:

SCAN ME

PLAY THEIR WAY

we can move

Sport England Funding Opportunities

Sport England has different funding opportunities that you might be interested in.

Take a look:

SCAN ME



Safeguarding on the ground

The reality of it

Day to day safeguarding in a sport/physical activity club might feel and look quite different from thinking about policies and procedures.

Every day good practice shapes and supports a clubs welfare and safeguarding standards.

This can be involving children, young people and participants in the clubs culture. Using resources like **Play Their Way** to plan sessions and regular communication about safeguarding.



CPSU Policy Advice

Once you have been through the self assessment, you'll find resources on the CPSU website to assist you with policy and procedure writing.

There are many templates available to you to support you in the process.

SCAN ME



Ann Craft Trust

Safeguarding Adults

The Ann Craft Trust have a great selection of resources, training and events when it comes to safeguarding adults in sport.

Safeguarding adults is a responsibility for every sport and physical activity organisation.

Getting safeguarding right will ensure a wider participation in sport and physical activity and ensure safe access for everyone.

Find out more here:

SCAN ME



Ann Craft Trust

Safeguarding Adults

The sports safeguarding culture programme helps your organisation to develop an action plan and improve your culture

Toolkit for supporting participants with their mental health

Safeguarding Adults Policy and Procedures Templates

Lower Level Concerns

A lower-level concern is any concern, doubt, or sense of unease, no matter how small, that someone may have acted in a way that is inconsistent with an organisations code of conduct.

This includes inappropriate behaviour outside of work, volunteering, or being an athlete.

These concerns are often not considered serious enough to refer to a statutory service such as the police or children's services.



Lower Level Concerns

It's important that an organisation challenges all concerns, including those thought of as lower-level, as it discourages any further rule breaking or escalating behaviour from taking place.

When lower-level concerns are left unchallenged it creates the environment for more serious rule breaks and even abuse to occur.

SCAN ME



Podcasts & Videos

NSPCC

ann craft trust

Safer Culture Safer Sport Podcast

We have created a new #SaferCultureSaferSport series on our Safeguarding Matters podcast as part of our campaig...

Ann Craft Trust

NSPCC



Dealing with a concern

Dealing with a concern can be stressful.

The CPSU provides a step-by-step guide to support you when a situation like this arises. If you have any concerns, you can also get support from your National Governing Body or Local Authority.

SCAN ME



Sport Safeguarding Training

By attending training and events, you will develop your knowledge and skills to help you to recognise and respond to abuse or harm. When affiliated to a NGB, you might be required to undertake sport specific training.

This link to the CPSU can help you choose the right training.

UK Coaching connects, assists, represents and empowers all coaches.

Safeguarding adults in sport training

Buddle

Buddle provides free learning, training and support resources, to inspire and strengthen clubs and community organisations offering sport and physical activity, and the professionals that work with them.

They share the latest information, training, and tools to help clubs and organisations overcome challenges and make the most of the opportunities available to them.

SCAN ME



Information for Parents

CPSU Parents' Hub

We all want children and young people to enjoy taking part in sport – and parents play a key role in that.

This section of the CPSU website has been created to signpost parents to all the advice you need to keep your child safe in sport, from choosing safe clubs and activities, to supporting your child in a positive way.

SCAN ME

If you're a coach or sports club, you can find further information on engaging with parents on the CPSU parents in sport topic page.

Safeguarding Essentials

Safeguarding is a key responsibility for every organisation that delivers sport and physical activity.

There are safeguarding essentials that all organisations should have in place, such as having stand-alone safeguarding adults and child protection policies and procedures.

If you want to know more about safeguarding policies, procedures, recruiting responsibly for your organisation and how to go about getting a DBS check, then read more here

SCAN ME

Health and Safety Essentials



All organisations employing five or more people must have a written Health and Safety Policy statement. The policy should cover all aspects of the organisation and be relevant to all employees.

A Health and Safety Policy demonstrates how seriously an organisation takes its health and safety responsibilities.

A good policy will show how the organisation protects those who could be affected by its activities. The policy should be of an appropriate length and relevance to the activities and size of the organisation.

SCAN ME

Mental Health

The World Health Organisation (WHO) defines mental health as a state of wellbeing in which people can realise their own abilities, cope with everyday life stresses, work productively, and contribute to their community.

One in four of us, however, will experience mental health problems in any one year (Bebbington and McManus, 2020).

Supporting your people with their mental health is not only a legal requirement (Duty to Care Review and The Equality Act 2010), but also an essential aspect of maintaining a happy and healthy community in whatever setting, organisation, or physical activity you're involved with.

SCAN ME

Child Line

Support for children and young people

Childline is free to contact on 0800 1111.

Childline counsellors are here to take calls 24 hours a day, 7 days a week from children and young people under 19.

You can also speak to them online through the 1-2-1 chat and via email.

0800 1111

24/7

SCAN ME

LGBTQ+ in Sport

We imagine a world where every LGBTQ+ person can thrive in sport. We want to unite everyone who cares about sport to create the world that we imagine, together.

Sport has the power to bring people together and to improve our mental and physical health. But too many LGBTQ+ people are still not able to thrive in sport.

Check out Stonewall resources to learn more & read about their sport champions.

SCAN ME



Inclusion Support

Active Gloucestershire can support you with advice around making your sessions more inclusive.



Please contact **Ida** for more information.

Ida Pöschel
Email: idapoeschel@activegloucestershire.org
Call: 01452 393603

ActiveImpact
Making inclusion happen

You might also find the resources and advice from Active Impact of use.

SCAN ME

we can move Active Gloucestershire

Inclusion Support

Activity Alliance

Activity Alliance has developed these 10 principles to support providers to deliver more appealing opportunities for disabled people.

activity alliance
disability inclusion sport

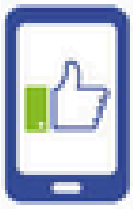
The 10 principles

During research published in our **Talk to me report**, disabled people told us:

Principle 1

My channels

Use communication channels that I already trust e.g. social media, local media.



Principle 2

My locality

Travelling to get to activities can be a significant barrier for disabled people. I would much prefer opportunities to be closer to home.



Principle 3

Me, not my impairment

Many people do not identify with being disabled and are put off by advertising that focuses on disability.



Principle 4

My values

Everyone has values. Understanding what my values are and linking an activity to these can make taking part more appealing.



Principle 5

My life story

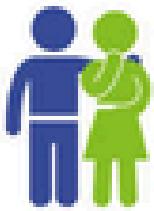
As people grow older our values change. Keep me interested over time through new ideas.



Principle 6

Reassure me

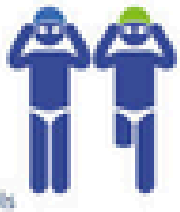
Some disabled people fear standing out and need to be reassured that any activity we attend will be welcoming and suitable for our needs.



Principle 7

Include me

Some disabled people need to know we are good enough to take part. Providers should make sure that people with varying ability levels feel included in sessions.



Principle 8

Listen to me

Disabled people can be limited by our impairment and should be able to discuss our needs in a safe and private environment before starting an activity.



Principle 9

Welcome me

An unpleasant first experience can prevent anyone from taking part again. Ensure my first experience is enjoyable so I'm likely to return.



Principle 10

Show me

Engage disabled people who are already involved in your activity to promote it to others.



Your Club Welfare officers:

Name:
Email:
Call:

Name:
Email:
Call:

Name:
Email:
Call:

Name:
Email:
Call: