

Black Country Coaches Club

Safeguarding and Child Protection / Vulnerable Adults

Policy Statement – 2025/26 Season



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Document Control and Revision History					
Date Approved	01/07/2025	Current Version No.	1	Date Due for Review	01/07/2026
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Policy Statement

At BCCC we endeavor that all staff and volunteers are training spot signs of abuse every 2 years with safeguarding training from UK Coaching and the FA. We will work to prevent and spot to then report to the welfare officer.

Black Country Coaches Club (BCCC) has a duty of care to safeguard all children involved in the Club from harm. It is the responsibility of all who work and volunteer. BCCC will ensure the safety and protection of all children involved in BCCC through adherence to the Child Protection guidelines adopted by BCCC and set out as best practice by the NSPCC when working with young people and venerable young adults. Guide - <https://learning.nspcc.org.uk/safeguarding-child-protection/>

A child is defined as a person under the age of 18 (The Children Act 1989). Vulnerable adult those with protected characteristics identified through targeted work who can be over the age of 18.

Policy aims • The aim of the BCCC Child Protection Policy is to promote good practice: • Providing children and young people with appropriate safety and protection whilst in the care of BCCC • Allow all staff /volunteers to make informed and confident responses to specific child protection issues. It also aligns to (The Protection of Freedoms Act 2012) in protecting and safeguarding data and information of young people that attend BCCC.

Roles and Structure -

Activities at BCCC range from 1 to 1 Coaching, Education, mentoring and Training for Coaches and Young Coaches in the Black Country area. Safeguarding is managed by the coaches, volunteers' responsibility and guidance and support from the Welfare officer. This is from direct contact at organized and local centre activities within the region.

DBS Checks and Age Considerations

- All staff and volunteers aged **17 and over** who work with children and vulnerable adults are required to complete an **enhanced DBS check** prior to starting their role.
- Individuals aged **16 and under** are not required to obtain a DBS check, as they will always be **supervised** by a DBS-checked adult when participating in activities or assisting with coaching.
- This ensures that all adults with unsupervised access to children and vulnerable adults have been appropriately vetted, while younger helpers are safeguarded through supervision.

Photographic and digital usage

We will seek to keep children and young people safe by: always asking for written consent from a child and their parents or carers before taking and using a child's image, the changing the names of children whose images are being used in our published material whenever possible (and only using first names if we do need to identify them) we will also never publishing personal information about individual children.

We will also share with parents and carers so they understand how images of children will be securely stored on a password protected device and for how long (including how we will control access to the images and their associated information)

This will reducing the risk of images being copied and used inappropriately by: only using images of children in appropriate clothing (including safety wear if necessary) o avoiding full face and body shots of children.

Images will used will positively reflect young people's involvement in the activity.

We will also develop a procedure for reporting the abuse or misuse of images of children as part of our child protection procedures. We will ensure everyone involved in our organisation knows the procedures to follow to keep children safe at the Strikes Sports.

Clauses

1. Child Neglect

Neglect is normally defined in terms of an omission, where a child suffers significant harm or impairment of development by being deprived of food, clothing, warmth, hygiene, intellectual stimulation, supervision and safety, attachment to and affection from adults, or medical care. It may also include neglect of a child's basic emotional needs.

Neglect generally becomes apparent in different ways over a period of time rather than at one specific point. For instance, a child who suffers a series of minor injuries is not having his or her needs for supervision and safety met. The threshold of significant harm is reached when the child's needs are neglected to the extent that his or her wellbeing and/or development is severely affected.

2. Emotional Abuse

Emotional abuse is normally to be found in the relationship between an adult and a child rather than in a specific event or pattern of events. It occurs when a child's need for affection, approval, consistency and security are not met. It is rarely manifested in terms of physical symptoms. For children with disabilities it may include overprotection or conversely failure to acknowledge or understand a child's disability.

Examples of emotional abuse include:

- a. Persistent criticism, sarcasm, hostility or blaming.
- b. Where the level of care is conditional on his or her behaviour.
- c. Unresponsiveness, inconsistent or unrealistic expectations of a child.
- d. Premature imposition of responsibility on the child.
- e. Over or under protection of the child.
- f. Failure to provide opportunities for the child's education and development.
- g. Use of unrealistic or over-harsh disciplinary measures.
- h. Exposure to domestic violence.

Children show signs of emotional abuse by their behaviour for example, excessive clinginess to or avoidance of the parent/guardian, their emotional state (low self-esteem, unhappiness), or their development (non-organic failure to thrive). The threshold of significant harm is reached when abusive interactions dominate and become typical of the relationship between the child and the parent/guardian.

3. Physical Abuse

Physical abuse is any form of non-accidental injury that causes significant harm to a child, including:

- a. Shaking
- b. Use of excessive force in handling
- c. Deliberate poisoning
- d. Suffocation

e. Munchausen's syndrome by proxy (where parents/guardians fabricate stories of illness about their child or cause physical signs of illness)

f. Allowing or creating a substantial risk of significant harm to a child

g. For children with disabilities it may include confinement to a room or cot, or incorrectly given drugs to control behaviour

4. Sexual Abuse

Sexual abuse occurs when a child is used by another person for his or her gratification or sexual arousal, or for that of others, For example:

a. Exposure of the sexual organs or any sexual act intentionally performed in the presence of a child

b. Intentional touching or molesting of the body of a child whether by a person or object for the purpose of sexual arousal or gratification

c. Forcing/enticing a child to take part in sexual activities

d. Sexual exploitation of a child;

It may include non-contact activities, such as involving children in looking at pornographic material or watching sexual activities, or encouraging children to behave in sexually inappropriate ways.

Issue Reporting procedure

Incidents must be reported/recorded if any of the following occur. Staff and volunteer should report this immediately to the child welfare officer and recorded with a record of the incident. You should also ensure the parents of the child are informed only if in coaching activity-

- If you accidentally hurt a Child
 - If he/she seems distressed in any manner.
 - If a child appears to be sexually aroused by your actions.
 - If a child misunderstands or misinterprets something you have done.
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Recruitment and training of staff and volunteers

BCCC recognises that anyone may have the potential to abuse children in some way and that all reasonable steps are taken to ensure unsuitable people are prevented from working with children. Pre-selection checks must include the following:

All volunteers/staff should complete an application form. The application form will elicit information about an applicant's past and a self disclosure about any criminal record. • Consent should be obtained from an applicant to seek information from the Criminal Records Bureau. •

Two confidential references, including one regarding previous work with children. These references must be taken up and confirmed through telephone contact. • Evidence of identity (passport or driving licence with photo).

A DBS enhanced disclosure with support of Dudley CVS.

Training will be offered every 2 years inline with the policy for safeguarding and if interim courses with UK Coaching or The FA will be sort for individuals.

If the coach or a volunteer suspects abuse of any type they must report it immediately to Child Protection Officer –**Mo Sarwar**
DSL BCCoachesClub@gmail.com

Partners and additional contacts to support are the child welfare officer are –

Essential Contacts

In an emergency, or if there is a real and present risk of imminent danger or further harm, call 999 immediately

Local Contacts: Dudley

<p>Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub Designated Officer (DO)</p> <p>Key Dudley contact for concerns relating to a child</p>	<p>0300 555 0050</p> <p>Mon – Fri 9am – 5pm</p>	<p>0300 555 8574</p> <p>Emergency Duty Team</p>
<p>Local Police Child Protection Teams</p>	<p>0121 626 8165</p> <p>Police Family protection Unit</p> <p>0845 113 5000</p> <p>West Midlands Police</p>	<p>01384 456111</p> <p>Out of hours Social Services can be contacted via the Hospital switchboard</p>
<p>Designated Adult Safeguarding Manager (DASM)</p> <p>Key Dudley contact for concerns relating to an Adult</p> <p>Adult Safeguarding Alert or Concern</p>	<p>0300 555 0055</p> <p>Mon – Fri 9am – 5pm</p> <p>If the abuse is also a crime such as assault, rape, theft or racial harassment then you should contact the police on 0345 113 5000.</p> <p>Access to Adult Social Care Team on 0300 5550055 between 9.00am and 5.00pm, Monday to Friday</p>	<p>0300 555 8574.</p> <p>Emergency Duty Team</p>

Validation

Signed

Date

This documents next review is due 1st July 2025 using best practice from.....

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/preventing-abuse/safeguarding/writing-a-safeguarding-policy/>