

Child Protection Policy

Basingstoke Hockey Club adopts the principals of England Hockey Safe D Safeguarding and Protecting Young People in Hockey.

Basingstoke Hockey Club believes:

That safety and welfare of young people should always be of paramount importance, whatever, circumstances;

- A young person regardless of age, ability, gender, racial origin, religious belief and sexual orientation has a right to be protected from abuse;
- The rights, dignity and worth of a young person should always be protected;
- That everyone with a role in working with young people has a moral and legal responsibility to safeguard and promote welfare particularly when it comes to protecting young people from abuse;
- That special care is needed when dealing with young people whose age, inexperience or ability makes them particularly vulnerable to abuse.

Basingstoke Hockey Club (following England Hockey guidelines) has therefore:

- adopted this Safeguarding protection policy statement to ensure that the welfare and safety of young people in the club's care or custody is always the primary consideration;
- Is committed to providing an environment where young people can learn about, participate in and enjoy hockey free from harassment or abuse;
- Is committed to the delivery of England Hockey's national Safeguarding and Protecting Young People Policy that will enable Basingstoke Hockey Club to:
 - accept moral and legal responsibility to implement procedures, to provide a duty of care for young people, safeguard their well being and protect them from abuse;
 - o respond to any allegations appropriately and implement the appropriate disciplinary and appeals procedures
 - respect and promote the rights, wishes and feelings of young people and disabled adults
 - recruit, train and supervise volunteers (and where appropriate employees) to adopt best practice to safeguard and protect young people from abuse and themselves against false allegations
 - require volunteers (and where appropriate employees) to adopt and abide by the England Hockey Conduct, Equity, Health and Safety, Safeguarding Protection and Discipline policies

Who this policy applies to:

The Children Act 1989 states that anyone who is involved in the care of children should "do what is reasonable in the circumstances for the purpose of safeguarding or promoting child welfare".

The England Hockey Child Protection Policy and therefore the Basingstoke Hockey Club policy applies to any person or organisation involved in the care of children in hockey. A 'Child' is defined as any person under the age of 18 years AND anyone over 18 years who may be vulnerable by nature of any impairment or disability.