



Safeguarding Young People in Netball

1. Purpose & Scope

Brentwood Apex Netball Club considers the safety and wellbeing of young people as central to its values. As a netball club we accept our responsibility for providing guidance and support to all members, ensuring that netball is enjoyable and safe.

This Policy sets out Brentwood Apex Netball Club's approach to fulfilling its commitment to creating and maintaining a safe and enjoyable environment for the young people who take part in the sport of netball. Brentwood Apex Netball Club requires all members, connected participants and staff to abide by this Policy and all relating procedures and practice.

This policy also applies to all Brentwood Apex Netball Club players, coaches, volunteers, members, contacted participants and individuals involved with the club.

Everyone has a responsibility for safeguarding and the welfare of young people and this is no less the case in netball.

2. Definition & Terms

Safeguarding – Protecting children from abuse and maltreatment, preventing harm to their health or development, ensuring they grow up with the provision of safe and effective care and taking action to enable all children and young people to have the best outcomes.

Disclosure and Barring Service – the government department responsible for processing the criminal record checks to assist in making safer recruitment decisions.

The Disclosure and Barring Service replaced the Criminal Records Bureau and the Independent Safeguarding Authority. When a person is banned from working with young people by England Netball, we are obliged to refer this information to the DBS and they will determine inclusion on the barred list.

National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children - The **NSPCC** is a charity that specialises in child protection and the prevention of cruelty to young people. It is the only UK young people's charity with statutory powers that enables it to take action to safeguard young people at risk of abuse. The society operates throughout the UK and the Channel Islands.

Position of trust – someone who has a position of power or influence over those under 18. Criminal offences of abuse use this definition.

Wellbeing – a person's state of mental and physical health and resilience

Young person – is defined by England Netball as meaning a person under the age of 18. A child is a person under the age of 18. In this Policy young person will mean anyone under the age of 18. Please refer to the Glossary of Terms for further definitions.

3. Roles & Responsibilities

Brentwood Apex Netball Club fulfils its safeguarding responsibilities by ensuring all Brentwood Apex Netball Club members are appropriately trained and by supporting netball activity to be delivered appropriately through the provision of advice and guidance to all those in netball, working in partnership with members, connected participants, staff and external agencies, including statutory authorities.

- Brentwood Apex Netball Club has an appointed Club Safeguarding Officer (CSO) to advise, manage and support the club's safeguarding policies. Details of the CSO can be found on the club's website.
- Brentwood Apex Netball Club have adopted and implemented the England Netball Safeguarding Young People in Netball Policy.
- Brentwood Apex Netball Club regularly reviews our Volunteer Matrix to ensure that all members who have Regular Supervisory Contact with our young people are aware of our Safeguarding Policies and have completed an Enhanced DBS disclosure with England Netball.
- Brentwood Apex Netball Club continues to ensure that all Committee and Club members are provided with education and training opportunities in relation to safeguarding best practices.
- Brentwood Apex Netball Club will continue to work in partnership with parents/carers and young people within the Club.

4. Duty of Care

Brentwood Apex Netball Club has a responsibility to take all reasonable care for the safety of the young people involved with their event. The person in charge of the young person acts “in loco parentis” and is expected to act as a reasonably prudent parent would. They will need to consider the reasonable steps which should be taken to show they have acted to a reasonable standard of care. This should include:

- Adopting the policies and procedures of England Netball into the club constitution;
- Ensuring that every member of the club and their parent/carer is aware of who the Club Safeguarding Officer is;
- Familiarisation with the Safeguarding Young People in Netball Policy;
- Ensuring relevant training is provided and kept up to date for Club Safeguarding Officers, coaches and members of the club
- A current register of attendees;
- A current register of contact details, including emergency contacts;
- Confidentially retained records of any medical conditions, allergies, special needs etc for all individuals;
- First aid provision available at all times, both at the club and when off site, and a trained First Aider in attendance
- Current risk assessments for the premises and activities carried out.

Brentwood Apex Netball Club Coaches have a duty of care to ensure that the activities they organise are appropriate to the capabilities of each young person in their care. They should adhere to the standards set for them by the qualifications they have achieved and not seek to operate at a level which is beyond their current qualification.

5. Wellbeing

Many concerns about the welfare of young people are about their general health and happiness, their wellbeing, rather than about issues of potential abuse. The evidence our safeguarding case management process shows is that these issues are significantly more frequent than concerns about abuse. Brentwood Apex Netball Club believes that sport offers many positives in the lives of its young participants and that caring about the welfare of young people is part of the safeguarding duty which we all have. People in positions of trust can be a great influence in the lives of young people and so have the potential to notice changes, be available to talk to and to offer advice.

Young people may manifest signs of behaviour which cause you concern. We recognise that not all issues will be picked up by Children’s Services as they do not meet their threshold of ‘significant risk of harm’ and that local support may be the most effective way of helping the young person. We can assist with identifying and supporting the young person by raising levels of awareness and acting as a sign posting service to

resources and organisations which provide support for parent's/carers or for the young people directly.

6. Support Links

ChildLine – for young people to access help

The NSPCC – for adults to access help or report a concern

Young Minds - young people's wellbeing and mental health

Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS) are NHS funded services for young people in the mental health arena in the UK

Bullying UK - bullying in Sport – support/what to do