

	POLICY	Document Number: SGPo01
	SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE POLICY	Version number: 6 Updated: February 2026 Next Review Date: February 2028

v.	Latest Amendment Details	Authorised by
6	Policy has been reformatted and some language has been simplified and tailored to the Youth Sport Trust.	Youth Sport Trust Board (NGR Committee)

Foreword

The Youth Sport Trust is a national children's charity. We build brighter futures by improving young people's health and wellbeing empowering young people and equipping educators with the life changing benefits of PE, play and sport.

Founded in 1995, we provide opportunities for over 2 million children and young people every year to take part. Our vision is to create a future where every child enjoys the life-changing benefits of play and sport.

Critical to our success is providing safe, inclusive, friendly and enjoyable experiences to everyone taking part in our events and activities. Ensuring their safety, welfare and wellbeing is at the heart of everything we do.

This updated Safeguarding Policy sits alongside our Children and Young People Safeguarding Procedures. They include recent statutory guidance and good practice guidance for organisations providing services to children and young people. It is mandatory to everyone involved with the Youth Sport Trust, setting out how we should all work together to safeguard, encourage and promote the welfare and wellbeing of children, young people and adults.



Ali Oliver
Chief Executive, Youth Sport Trust

“Every child, young person and adult who participates in sport has the right to feel secure and be safe whilst experiencing a spirit of adventure, fun, excitement and a sense of belonging.”

Introduction

The Youth Sport Trust believe all children, young people, and adults have the right to be engaged and inspired by sport, play, and physical activity in a safe, inclusive, secure environment and be protected from harm. Unlocking the voices of children, young people and adults is critical to ensuring all our policies, procedures, programme development and delivery puts their voice at the heart of everything we do. We recognise the importance of listening to the challenges and experiences children, young people and adults are facing in their lives. This helps us work towards our 2022-2035 Strategy “Inspiring Changemakers, Building Belonging”. Our Strategy aims to build back healthier, happier, and more resilient young people and adults, helping to create a level playing field for those in our society most disadvantaged.

The Youth Sport Trust acknowledges our duty of care to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and young people. In addition, we recognise our responsibility and the legal framework we work within to safeguard adults who have needs for care and support and as a result of those care and support needs may be unable to take action to protect themselves.

Our safeguarding policies, procedures and guidance reflects our statutory responsibilities, legislation and government guidance and complies with best practice and the requirements of the Charity Commission, NSPCC Child Protection in Sport Unit Standards for Safeguarding Children, Ann Craft Trust Safeguarding Adults in Sport Framework and the ISO9001 quality management system.

Everyone at the Youth Sport Trust has a responsibility and a role to play in safeguarding children, young people, and adults ensuring it sits at the heart of everything we do from the activities and events we directly deliver to those where we deliver with our partner organisations. We actively encourage and promote our safeguarding policy, procedures, and good practice guidance to everyone involved in all our activities and events.

Definitions

The terms child, children and young person describe any individual under the age of 18.
The term adult describes any individual 18 years of age or over.

Purpose

The purpose of this Policy is to demonstrate the commitment of the Youth Sport Trust to safeguard children and young people and to ensure that everyone involved with the charity is aware of:

- The legislation, Policy and Procedures for safeguarding children and young people.
- The roles and responsibilities for safeguarding at the Youth Sport Trust.
- What to do if they have a concern relating to the safety, welfare or wellbeing of a child or young person at the Youth Sport Trust.

Scope

This Safeguarding Children and Young People Policy and the Children and Young People Safeguarding Procedures applies to:

- All individuals involved with the Youth Sport Trust including employees, workers, volunteers, board members, trustees and all our partners.
- All concerns about the safety and wellbeing of children and young people in Youth Sport Trust events and activities.

Our commitment

The Youth Sport Trust will ensure that:

- The safety, welfare and wellbeing of children, young people and adults is of paramount importance and at the heart of all the work we do and in all the decisions we take.
- We promote and prioritise the safety, welfare and wellbeing of everyone involved with our charity and protect them from the harm.
- We promote a culture where everyone feels valued, listened to and respected.
- Everyone is aware of the Children and Young People Safeguarding Procedures and knows what to do and who to contact if they have a safeguarding, welfare or wellbeing concern.
- Everyone understands their role and responsibilities for safeguarding children and young people.
- All safeguarding, welfare, wellbeing concerns will be taken seriously and responded to promptly in accordance with the Youth Sport Trust Children and Young People Safeguarding Procedures.
- We will cooperate, share information and work together with the Police, statutory and non-statutory agencies in taking actions to safeguard an individual.
- Confidential, detailed and accurate records of all safeguarding concerns are maintained and securely stored in line with the Youth Sport Trust Data Protection Policy and Records and Retention Policy.
- We promote our Code of Ethics and accompanying Codes of Conduct.
- Safe recruitment practices are applied. This includes the management of the criminal records checking processes to prevent the employment/deployment of unsuitable individuals in accordance with our Recruitment and Selection Policy.
- Provide appropriate induction and safeguarding training, learning and development opportunities (as relevant to the role).
- We act in accordance with best practice advice from UK Sport, Sport England, Sport Wales, Sport Scotland, Sport Northern Ireland, NSPCC Child Protection in Sport Unit and the Ann Craft Trust.

Implementation

The Youth Sport Trust is committed to implementing our Safeguarding Children and Young People Policy and Procedures. To achieve this, we will have in place:

- A clear line of accountability within the charity for the safety, welfare and wellbeing of everyone.
- A Lead and Deputy Safeguarding Officer with overall responsibility for safeguarding.
- An Event Safeguarding Officer with responsibility for safeguarding at Youth Sport Trust events and activities.
- A Board Safety and Welfare Champion.
- Effective planning and risk assessment for safeguarding at our events and activities.
- Arrangements to work together with our partners to agree and promote a mutual approach to the safety, welfare and wellbeing of everyone at our events and activities.
- Robust safeguarding arrangements and procedures are in operation and promoted through our policies, procedures and the Code of Ethics and accompanying Codes of Conduct.
- A reporting process to react, respond, report and record all safeguarding, welfare and wellbeing concerns in accordance with our Children and Young People Safeguarding Procedures.
- A Safeguarding Concerns Referral Process providing the framework of actions following a concern reported under the Children and Young People Safeguarding Procedures including (but not limited to) disciplinary and appeals procedure.
- A process for forming a Case Management Group to manage any safeguarding, welfare or wellbeing concerns on a case-by-case basis (as required).
- Access to legal and professional advice in relation to safeguarding (as required).

- Arrangements to ensure consistency and share good practice through the Youth Sport Trust Safeguarding Champions and Safeguarding Strategy Group. In order to monitor and evaluate the Safeguarding Children and Young People Policy and Procedures.

Monitoring

This Policy is approved by the Youth Sport Trust Board of Trustees and will be regularly reviewed no less than on a two-yearly basis or in the following circumstances:

- Changes in legislation, government guidance or other safeguarding guidance.
- As required by UK Sport, Sport England, Sport Wales, Sport Scotland, Sport Northern Ireland, NSPCC Child Protection in Sport Unit and/or Ann Craft Trust.
- The result of any other significant change or event.