

Guidelines on using Club Changing Rooms

The following guidance is recommended and is in line with the best practice promoted by the NSPCC. For any further queries please speak to the Club Manager.

Our Club works to the LTA **safeguarding policy** and the **Welfare Officer** contact details are shown on our notice board for any communication of concerns. The Club also has a **code of conduct** which we expect staff, coaches, members and suppliers to support regarding positive behaviours.

For the purposes of this guidance a child is anyone under the age of 18 however, we also apply these guidelines to adults who are considered to be of vulnerable status. If any member is in this category it would be helpful to notify the coaches and staff so that they can offer any appropriate support.

- No staff or coaches at the Club have any responsibility for children or vulnerable adults who chose to change at the Club, and will not supervise the changing facilities at any time.
- If your child is too young or has a specific set of needs which means they are not suitable to be left to get changed alone then the Parent or Guardian is always expected to accompany them. For reference the NSPCC use under age 8 for those unaccompanied attending swimming pools.
- Under no circumstances should anyone take photographs in the changing rooms or toilet areas.
- The Club would hope that the code of conduct will support behaviours that will mitigate the risk of bullying or harmful behaviours. If any behaviours of concern including damage to Club property or facilities, are noted in changing rooms this should be flagged to the Club manager for investigation.
- If your child feels uncomfortable changing in front of others then no pressure should be placed on them to do so and instead they should be encouraged to get changed at home, (or possibly in your car) or we can offer the use of the bigger outside toilet which has disabled access and which can be locked and is big enough to get changed in.
- Children with disabilities are welcome at the Club. We recommend that the carers or guardian/parents discuss with the Club to identify how they can be assisted on a case by case basis, and to clarify that the young person is able to consent to the assistance being offered.
- We recommend that children are always accompanied in changing rooms if there are other adults in the changing facilities and if anyone is using the showers.

Next review date: 07/05/2025

Transgender and transitioning children guidance

- The Club recommends that the parent/guardian should discuss with their child their feelings and preference about which gendered changing rooms they feel comfortable to use.
- The Club recommends that the parent/guardian should always ensure they are present to mitigate any risks of bullying or unwanted behaviour towards a child and so that any concerns can be immediately raised via the safeguarding policy.
- As advised on the NSPCC site, it is recommended that a parent/guardian should ensure particular care for the privacy of the child, which may mean considering an appropriate space that can be locked and used privately (this is available in the bigger outside toilet).
- As advised on the NSPCC site, it is recommended that a parent/guardian should also be mindful to consider the feelings and privacy of other children who may be using the same changing room.

Review date 07/06/2025