

Merton Pisces Swimming Club

Safeguarding Policy Statement



Merton Pisces Swimming Club is committed to providing an environment in which all children participating in its activities have a safe and positive experience.

In order to achieve this Merton Pisces Swimming Club agrees to:

- Adopt and implement Child Safeguarding Policy and Procedures in full.
- Recognise that all children participating in activities regardless of their age, gender, race, faith, sexual orientation and ability have the right to enjoy their involvement in our sports in a safe environment and be protected from harm.
- Ensure that all individuals who work or volunteer with children in our organisation provide a positive, safe and enjoyable experience for children.
- Appoint a Welfare Officer with the necessary skills and training and who will take the lead in dealing with all child safeguarding matters raised within the organisation.
- Ensure that the Welfare Officers' name and contact details are known to all staff, members and parents/guardians of members that are under 18.
- Ensure that all individuals who work with children in the organisation have undertaken the appropriate training, have had the relevant DBS checks and adhere to the Regulations of our sports.
- Ensure that all individuals who will be working or will work with children in either a paid or voluntary role have been recruited in accordance with the Safe Recruitment Policy
- Ensure that all individuals who work with children in the organisation have received the appropriate training for their role and been provided, understand and adhere to the requirements of the Codes of Conduct.
- Provide all members of the organisation and parents/guardians of members under 18 with the opportunity to raise concerns in relation to a child's welfare in a safe and confidential manner.
- Ensure that all child safeguarding matters, whether they be concerns about child welfare or protection, are dealt with appropriately in accordance with the guidance for reporting an action.
- Ensure that confidentiality is always maintained and in line with the best interests of the child.
- Ensure all information relating to child safeguarding matters are held safely and securely.

- Look after all the children and address any concerns, don't let small insights be ignored. If you are not sure about a comment from a child, ask them, get context and facts. It is better to understand the situation and make an informed choice as to whether it is innocent or not.

PREVENT

- Any child or young adult that causes concern or that may be at risk of radicalisation should in the first instance follow your normal safeguarding procedures and speak to your designated safeguarding lead.
- Radicalisation can be encouraged by people who don't see it that way. A radicalised comment can be just as harmful as a racist one and should be dealt with quickly and quietly. The child or parent may not realise that what they are actually doing / saying.
- Where a real concern is determined the lead may discuss the case with children's social care. The local authority will have a Prevent lead that can help.
- The safeguarding lead may also contact the local police to talk to in confidence or other government support agencies.
- The Department for Education has a dedicated telephone helpline (020 7340 7264) to enable staff and governors to raise concerns relating to extremism directly, or in non-emergency situations, they can be emailed at:
counter.extremism@education.gsi.gov.uk
- It is better to let the professionals deal with the problem rather than someone that is inexperienced try and get it wrong. This is a sensitive area and one that needs to be addressed correctly.