



Child Safeguarding Policy

Eden Dodgeball Club believes that it is always unacceptable for a child or young person to experience abuse of any kind and recognises its responsibility to safeguard the welfare of all children and young people, by a commitment to practice which protects them.

We recognise that:

- the welfare of the child/young person is paramount
- all children, regardless of age, disability, gender, racial heritage, nationality, religious beliefs, sexual orientation or identity, have the right to equal protection from all types of harm or abuse
- working in partnership with children, young people, their parents, carers and other agencies is essential in promoting young people's welfare.

The purpose of the policy:

- To provide protection for the children and young people who receive Eden Dodgeball Club's services, including the children of adult members or users.
- To provide staff and volunteers with guidance on procedures they should adopt if they suspect a child or young person may be experiencing, or be at risk of, harm.

This policy applies to all staff, including senior managers and the committee, paid staff, volunteers and sessional workers, agency staff, students or anyone working on behalf of Eden Dodgeball Club.

We will seek to safeguard children and young people by:

- accept the moral and legal responsibility to provide a duty of care to protect and safeguard the wellbeing of all children engaged in any activity which it has control over
- valuing them, listening to and respecting them
- adopting child protection guidelines through procedures and a code of conduct for staff and volunteers
- recruiting staff and volunteers safely, ensuring all necessary checks are made
- sharing information about child protection and good practice with children, parents, staff and volunteers
- sharing information about concerns with agencies who need to know, and involving parents and children appropriately
- providing effective management for staff and volunteers through supervision, support and training.

Any member of staff, member or non-member who has a safeguarding concern should speak to the welfare officer or complete a **safeguarding referral form** and return it to the welfare officer.

Diane Duguid
Welfare Officer

Date: 22nd October 2019

Review Date: 22nd October 2020

Terminology and Descriptors

Abuse & Neglect

'Child abuse and neglect' are forms of maltreatment of a child. These terms include physical and sexual assaults as well as cases where the standard of care does not adequately support the child's health or development. Children may be abused or neglected through the infliction of harm, or through the failure to act to prevent harm.

Bullying

Bullying may be defined as deliberately hurtful behaviour, usually repeated over a period of time, where it is difficult for those bullied to defend themselves. It can take many forms, but the three main types are physical, verbal and emotional.

Child

Anyone who has not yet reached their 18th birthday, as per the Children Acts 1989 and 2004.

Child Protection

Process of protecting individual children identified as either suffering, or likely to suffer, significant harm as a result of abuse or neglect.

Designated Safeguarding Officer (DSO)

Committee member with responsibility for overseeing Eden Dodgeball Club's approach to safeguarding children, including dealing with concerns about the protection of children. This is undertaken by the Welfare Officer.

Parent

The term 'parents' also refers to carers or guardians, or people with parental responsibilities.

Poor Practice

Poor practice includes any behaviour that contravenes the Code of Conduct which is based around:

- rights of the player, the parent, the coach, the official
- responsibilities for the welfare of the players, the sport, the profession of coaching, and their own development
- respect for other players, officials and their decisions, coaches, the rules

Safeguarding

The process of protecting children from abuse or neglect, preventing impairment of their health and development, and ensuring they are growing up in circumstances consistent with the provision of safe and effective care that enables children to have optimum life chances and enter adulthood successfully.

Wellbeing

The five outcomes that are key to children's and young people's wellbeing, as first set out in Every Child Matters are to: be healthy; stay safe; enjoy and achieve; make a positive contribution; and achieve economic wellbeing. The Children Act 2004 requires local agencies to co-operate with a view to improving the wellbeing of children in relation to these outcomes.

Working Together to Safeguard Children 2013

Government guidance that sets out how organisations and individuals should work together to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and how practitioners should conduct the assessment of

children. The guidelines set out core legal requirements, making it easier for what individuals and organisations should do to keep children safe and promote their welfare.

Young Person

Reference to 'children' and 'young people' throughout this document apply interchangeably.