

1. The purpose and scope of this policy statement

The purpose of this policy statement is:

- to protect children and young people from harm
- to provide volunteers, as well as children and young people and their families, with the overarching principles that guide our approach to child protection.

This policy applies to anyone connected to Hitchin Netball Club.

2. Supporting documents

This policy statement should be read alongside our organisational policies, procedures, guidance and other related documents.

- Job Description for the designated Safeguarding Officer
- Safeguarding Young People in Netball Policy
- Code of Conduct for Volunteers
- Codes of Conducts for Juniors and Youth
- Reporting a Safeguarding Concern
- Taking and Using of Photographic and Recorded Images Policy
- Social Media Policy
- Anti-Bullying & Harassment Policy
- Complaints & Feedback Policy
- Whistleblowing Policy
- Concussion Policy

We adhere to the England Netball Safeguarding Procedures which can also be found via this [link](#).

3. We believe that:

- Children and young people should never experience abuse of any kind
- We have a responsibility to promote the welfare of all children and young people, to keep them safe and to practise in a way that protects them.

4. We recognise that:

- the welfare of children is paramount in all the work we do and in all the decisions we take all children, regardless of age, disability, gender reassignment, race, religion or belief, sex, or sexual orientation have an equal right to protection from all types of harm or abuse.
- some children are additionally vulnerable because of the impact of previous experiences, their level of dependency, communication needs or other issues.
- working in partnership with children, young people, their parents, carers and other agencies is essential in promoting young people's welfare.

5. We will seek to keep children and young people safe by:

- valuing, listening to and respecting them.
- adopting child protection and safeguarding best practice through our policies, procedures and code of conduct for volunteers.
- developing and implementing an effective online safety policy and related procedures.
- providing effective management for volunteers through supervision, support, training and quality assurance measures so that all volunteers know about and follow our policies, procedures and behaviour codes confidently and competently.
- recruiting and selecting volunteers safely, ensuring all necessary checks are made
- recording, storing and using information professionally and securely, in line with data protection legislation and guidance.
- making sure that children, young people and their families know where to go for help if they have a concern.
- using our Safeguarding and Child Protection Procedures to share concerns and relevant information with agencies who need to know, and involving children, young people, parents, families and carers appropriately.
- using our procedures to manage any allegations against volunteers appropriately.
- creating and maintaining an anti-bullying environment and ensuring that we have a policy and procedure to help us deal effectively with any bullying that does arise.
- ensuring that we have effective complaints and whistleblowing measures in place.
- ensuring that we provide a safe physical environment for our children, young people, volunteers, by applying health and safety measures in accordance with the law and regulatory guidance.
- building a safeguarding culture where volunteers, children, young people and their families, treat each other with respect and are comfortable about sharing concerns.

6. Contact details

Club Safeguarding Officer

Mary Hartley safeguarding@hitchinnetballclub.co.uk

Deputy Club Safeguarding Officer

Sophie Baverstock safeguarding@hitchinnetballclub.co.uk

Concerns can also be reported directly to England Netball [here](#) or calling 01509 277850
or emailing besafe@englandnetball.co.uk