

Edgbaston Priory Club Safeguarding Policy Statement

Edgbaston Priory Club acknowledges the duty of care to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and vulnerable adults. The Club is committed to ensuring safeguarding practices reflects statutory responsibilities, government guidance and complies with best practise and local authority requirements.

The policy recognises that the welfare and interest of children and vulnerable adults are paramount in all circumstances. It aims to ensure that regardless of age, ability, or disability, gender reassignment, race, religion or belief, sex or sexual orientation, socio-economic background, individuals:

- Have a positive and enjoyable experience of sport at the Edgbaston Priory Club in a safe centred environment
- Are protected from abuse whilst participating in activities provided by the Edgbaston Priory Club or outside of the activity

Edgbaston Priory Club acknowledges that some children and vulnerable adults, including disabled and those from ethnic minority communities, can be particularly vulnerable to abuse and we accept the responsibility to take reasonable and appropriate steps to ensure their welfare.

As part of our safeguarding policy, the Edgbaston Priory Club will:

- Promote and prioritise the safety and wellbeing of children and vulnerable adults
- Ensure everyone understands their roles and responsibilities in respect of safeguarding and is provided with appropriate learning opportunities to recognise, identify and respond to signs of abuse, neglect and other safeguarding concerns relating to children and vulnerable adults
- Ensure appropriate action is taken in the event of incidents/concerns of abuse and support provided to the individuals who raise or disclose the concern
- Ensure that confidential, detailed and accurate records of all safeguarding concerns are maintained and securely stored
- Prevent the employment/deployment of unsuitable individuals
- Ensure robust safeguarding arrangements and procedures are in operation

The policy and procedures will be widely promoted and are mandatory for everyone involved in the Edgbaston Priory Club. The Designated Safeguarding Leads for Edgbaston Priory Club are, **Harpreet Dosanjh, Kam Sahota and James Kennedy**.

Signed by:



Robert Bray, Chief Executive
May 2018

Signed by:



David Tucker; Chairman
May 2018

What is Safeguarding?

Safeguarding relates to protecting children and adults who may be vulnerable from all forms of abuse or exploitation.

There is no exhaustive list of what may constitute abuse or exploitation but it includes physical, emotional, sexual, financial, neglect, online abuse, and discriminatory abuse.

Safeguarding also relates to broader preventative responsibilities that are wide-ranging concerning the welfare and well-being of children and enabling people to reach their full potential, as well as to stay safe and healthy.

Safeguarding Children & Vulnerable Adults

Safeguarding duties in respect of children apply to anyone who has not yet reached their 18th birthday.

When safeguarding children, the child's needs are paramount, and the needs and wishes of each child, be they a baby or infant, or an older child, should always be put first.

Safeguarding duties apply to adults who are, or may be, in need of community services due to age, illness or a mental or physical disability. Who is, or may be, unable to take care of himself/herself, or unable to protect himself/herself against significant harm or exploitation. Where an adult is found to lack capacity to make a decision then any action taken, or any decision made for, or on their behalf, must be made in their best interests.

Safe Environment

The Club will provide a safe environment, for their members and ensure that their employees, when working with children or vulnerable adults avoid working in isolation out of the sight of parents or other carers. Whilst employees are awaiting their DBS checks they must be supervised by someone who does have DBS clearance.

Situations which trigger safeguarding concerns

Witnessing something which constitutes harm or neglect.

Abuse or neglect has been disclosed to a member of staff. In some cases a disclosure may relate to something that happened a long time ago but that is still significant and important for the individual to deal with.

You may have a suspicion that abuse or neglect is occurring and therefore it is important to be vigilant and sensitive to warning signs of abuse. Examples of these signs could be:

- Physical abuse – broken bones, signs of bruising, hitting, kicking.
- Unusual behaviour
- Sexual abuse
- Neglect – weight loss, unkempt appearance.
- Violent Outbursts
- Racist or sexist behaviour

What should you do?

If you are concerned about an individual or situation you should first make contact with the Club's designated safeguarding leads. Edgbaston Priory Club's DSL's (Designated Safeguarding Leads) are, Harpreet Dosanjh, Kam Sahota and James Kennedy).

This can be done in person, or by completing a safeguarding concern form, which will be passed onto the DSL team for further investigation. On the safeguarding concern form you should record what the person said or the incident they witnessed or details of any significant marks or behaviour which were observed, noting any names and contact details (yours and those of the child or adult), dates and times.

You should ensure that accurate details of any witnesses are recorded - did anyone else hear what the person said, see the marks or notice the behaviour?

This record should be kept safe and given to the Club's DSL team who will securely store the details. Additionally, a record of any action that will be taken regarding safeguarding will also be maintained by the Club's DSL team, bearing in mind that these records could become disclosable evidence in the event of a prosecution or other process.

If there are reasonable grounds for believing that an individual is at immediate risk you should contact the Club's DSL who will report the situation to the police by phoning 999, and emergency medical services if appropriate.

What might happen next?

When the Club's DSL or CEO passes a concern on to local authorities, they may wish to discuss concerns with you, or there may be no further contact depending on how the matter is dealt with.

If abuse or neglect is suspected or identified, local authorities and or the police will consider making enquiries to establish if any action needs to be taken to prevent or stop abuse, and if so by whom.

In regards to safeguarding, for both children and adults, any criminal investigation by the police takes precedence over all other forms of enquiry.

If the Club's DSL can give you any feedback on what happens as a result of your concern, they will. It is not always possible to share information about everything that happens due to confidentiality reasons.