



Hykeham Sailing Club

Safeguarding Children & Adults at Risk

A Short Guide for Members

HSC Policy on Safeguarding Children and Adults at Risk.

HSC is committed to safeguarding from physical, sexual or emotional harm, neglect or bullying, children under the age of 18 taking part in HSC activities. HSC recognises that the safety, welfare and needs of the child are paramount and that all children, irrespective of age, disability, race, religion or belief, sex, sexual or gender identity or social status, have a right to protection from discrimination and abuse. A full copy of the "HSC Safeguarding Children and Adults at Risk Policy" is available in the clubhouse and on the HSC website.

What has this to do with me?

HSC considers that safeguarding children and adults is a responsibility of ALL HSC members, not only those members working directly with children or adults at risk.

What do I need to know?

The main thing is to treat all people with courtesy and respect, as you would expect them to behave towards you.

Race in accordance with the RYA Racing Charter which encourages inclusive, fair, enjoyable and safe racing for all in compliance with the rules, and states that "foul, abusive, aggressive and discriminatory language or behaviour, or a lack of respect for others and their property will not be tolerated".

For your own protection, avoid putting yourself in a situation that could be misinterpreted:

- Try to avoid using the changing rooms and showers when there are children present, or if it's unavoidable make sure you're not the only adult in the changing room.
- Don't give a child a lift in your car, unless it's with the parents' full knowledge and consent.
- Think very carefully before contacting a young person by phone, email or social media. In general stick to group communications or contact their parent.
- **Do not use** mobile phones, cameras, or tablets in the changing rooms. Using a device even for a text can be misinterpreted, and such devices are banned from use in the changing rooms. Taking any form of photographs in the changing rooms is strictly prohibited.
- When rescuing a person (particularly a child) from the water or giving first aid, always tell them (where possible) what you are going to do **before** you do it. You cannot be accused of abuse if you are genuinely and appropriately dealing with an emergency.

What should I do if I am concerned about a child or adult at risk?

- Listen, observe and make a record of what they are saying.
- Do not ask questions, but make it clear that you will need to tell someone else in order to help them.
- Pass the information to the Club Welfare Officer, Officer of the Day or a Senior Sailing Instructor.