



Duty of care

A duty of care is a legal obligation which is imposed on an organisation or an individual that requires them to adhere to a standard of reasonable care when undertaking any task or act that could potentially cause harm to another.

Section 11 of the Children Act 2004 places duties on a range of organisations and individuals to ensure their function and any services they contract out to others are discharged having regard to the need to safeguard and promote the welfare of children. This duty extends to sports organisations and clubs who deliver sports activities to children. Paid and volunteer staff have a duty to be aware of their responsibilities for safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children, how they should respond to child protection concerns and make a referral to the local authority Children's Social Care, police, Local Authority Designated Officer (LADO) or other agencies if necessary.

Swim England is the national governing body for swimming, para-swimming, diving, high diving, artistic swimming, water polo and open water swimming, and as such receives funding from Sport England.

To meet our duty of care the club will:

- Adopt Wavepower 2020-2023 in full.
- Promote and raise awareness of Wavepower with all club members.
- Ensure all club members are aware of their responsibilities and the procedures to be followed in the event of any concerns about a child's safety or welfare.
- Promote a culture of listening to children.

Anyone involved in our sports can contact the Swim England Child Safeguarding Team, Swimline, County or Regional Welfare Officer or the Swim England Legal Department for advice or guidance. If these services are unavailable for any reason and failure to act immediately may place a child at risk of harm then immediate contact should be made with police, Children's Social Care, Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH), NSPCC Child Protection Helpline or other agencies as appropriate.