

# ENGLAND HOCKEY POLICY DOCUMENT



ENGLAND  
HOCKEY

## Safeguarding and Protecting Young People

### OVERVIEW

As part of its commitment to ensuring that young people are able to enjoy the sport of hockey England Hockey (EH) has developed this Safeguarding and Protecting Young People in Hockey policy.

England Hockey (EH) believes that all young people involved in hockey have a fundamental right to be protected so that they can enjoy the sport free from all forms of abuse and exploitation. It therefore seeks to help protect and promote the welfare of all young people in hockey by having in place clear policies and guidance for its affiliated clubs and associations and all others involved in the sport.

England Hockey (EH) views all those within hockey as part of the Hockey Family. This includes all clubs, associations, other organisations and individuals with any involvement at any level.

England Hockey (EH) believes that all members of the Hockey Family have responsibilities to help protect young people and England Hockey (EH) has developed this Safeguarding and Protecting Young People policy to help ensure that this happens.

Safeguarding means promoting the safety and welfare of young people. Safeguarding is a term used to incorporate good practice and is wider than “Child Protection”. Child protection is still an essential element of this policy and is about acting on concerns about a young person or individual.

### GENERAL SAFEGUARDING AND PROTECTING YOUNG PEOPLE PRINCIPLES

The safety and welfare of young people is paramount.

1. All young people, regardless of age, ability, sex, race, religion or belief, ethnic origin, social status or sexual orientation have the right to be protected from harm.
2. The rights, dignity and worth of all young people should always be respected.
3. England Hockey (EH) wishes to promote a TELLING culture. Everyone within hockey must therefore report all concerns in accordance with England Hockey (EH) reporting procedures.
4. It is the responsibility of child protection experts to determine whether or not abuse has taken place, but it is everyone’s responsibility in hockey to report concerns.
5. The roles and responsibilities of the statutory agencies in safeguarding young people must be recognised and the procedures of the Local Safeguarding Children Boards must be complied with.
6. Any policy or procedure is only as effective as the ability and skill of those who operate it.
7. England Hockey (EH) is committed to encouraging, and everyone within hockey must recognise and regard as essential, the effective and safe recruitment of all individuals working with young people in hockey.
8. All those working in hockey, in a paid or voluntary capacity, must abide by England Hockey’s (EH)’s Code of Ethics and Behaviour.
9. All employees are expected to embrace and adhere to this policy. A full copy of the policy is available on request.