

Northumberland Sport is committed to helping people in Northumberland, especially children and young people, to enjoy healthy and active lifestyles. Our purpose is:

To increase and develop participation in sport building healthy and successful communities

By working through our network of partners we aim to ensure that every opportunity provided for young people to access sport supports each child to:

- Be healthy
- Stay safe
- Have fun and achieve
- Make a positive contribution
- Develop positive attitudes to themselves and others

We believe that providing safe and enjoyable activities is essential to encouraging long term involvement in physical activity through sport. Our Child Protection Policies and Procedures set out how we will seek to fulfil our commitment to children and young people in association with our partners, including statutory agencies such as Children's Services and the Police.

Northumberland Sport also recognises that some adult participants in sport rely heavily on the support of other people to enable them to access sport and therefore may be vulnerable to abuse. Raising awareness of the need to provide for the safety of vulnerable

adults through the provision of sport in Northumberland is therefore included within our policies and plans.

We have worked closely with national agencies such as the NSPCC Child Protection in Sport Unit (CPSU) to ensure our policies, procedures and coordinated plans improve the safety of young people through sport and help keep them safe from harm. Locally we are working closely with the Northumberland Safeguarding Children Board and district councils to ensure the work being done by the sports sector is coordinated with wider efforts to safeguard young people in Northumberland.



Our policies and plans will ensure that we:

- Provide information and advice about keeping children safe from harm in sport including how to make a complaint or raise concerns
- Carry out checks to ensure people recruited to work with young people in sport are suitable to work with children
- Operate codes of practice which make it clear what is an acceptable standard of behaviour and practice
- Include equity measures which ensure that all children and young people are included in measures to safeguard them through sport
- Consult wherever possible with young people and parents about being safe in sport and how best to provide information
- Provide information to young people about where to go for help and advice
- Organise education and training opportunities to improve learning, awareness and quality of provision including training for designated child protection officers
- Monitor how we deliver our annual plans
- Influence other sports organisations and providers to implement coordinated policies and procedures which are written to national standards for safeguarding children in sport or equivalent.



“...providing safe and enjoyable activities is essential to encouraging long term involvement in physical activity through sport”

Who is this leaflet for and why has it been produced?

This leaflet aims to tell people and organisations generally about Northumberland Sport's commitment to child protection through sport and the work we are carrying out in collaboration with key agencies.

Child Protection in sport is vital to achieving our aims. Through the strength and commitment of our Partnership, links with key agencies and the qualities of the people who represent us we are in a position to make a difference and help put a stop to cruelty to children.

Are children at risk of abuse in sport?

Our main concern is to work with all agencies to stop the abuse of children in any aspect of society and to ensure the rights of children are upheld and respected. It may be that concerns about the welfare of a child come to light through their involvement in sport rather than as a result of their involvement in sport.

Unfortunately people who wish to cause harm to children and young people will seek access to them through sport, especially where suitable checks, operating procedures and awareness are not in place. Our work with partners seeks to ensure those adults unsuitable to work with children or vulnerable adults are not provided with opportunities to do them harm through sport.

Which organisations are involved in Safeguarding Children in Sport in Northumberland?

Northumberland Sport is a network of organisations with a shared interest in increasing participation in sport and helping people achieve their potential.

We are also working with National Governing Bodies of Sport and local clubs as well as local School Sport Partnerships to improve child protection through sport in Northumberland.

Our work is coordinated by a Safeguarding Children and Young People through Sport Task Group which has representatives from all partners including the Northumberland Safeguarding Children Board. The 'Task Group' is administered by the Partnership's Core Team including a Lead Child Protection Officer.

Where can I get more information?

There is a list of useful websites on the back of this leaflet which will give you more information about safeguarding through sport including www.northumberlandsport.co.uk where you can download information including our Child Protection Policy and Procedures and scheduled workshops and training opportunities.

Further information leaflets are available for young people, parents, coaches and club organisers from Northumberland Sport **01670 785020** or via the website www.northumberlandsport.co.uk



“ ... be healthy,
have fun and achieve,
contribute positively and ...
stay safe ”

Help and advice

If you have concerns about the welfare of a child, need information on good practice for Safeguarding Children in Sport or wish to make a complaint concerning the delivery of activities provided through Northumberland Sport, the organisations below can help:

Northumberland Sport Child Protection Officer	01670 785020
Northumberland County Council Children's Safeguarding unit	01670 714411
Northumberland County Council Children's Services (24 hour helpline)	0845 600 5252

Other Local Safeguarding in Sport contacts (Monday to Friday 9.00 – 5.00)

Leisure Alnwick District	01665 605030
Berwick Upon Tweed District Council	01289 330044
Blyth Valley Arts and Leisure Trust	01670 542257
Castle Morpeth Borough Council	01670 794792
Leisure Tynedale	01434 613219
Wansbeck District Council	01670 532235

National Contact Telephone Numbers and websites

NSPCC Child Protection Helpline (Open 24 hours)	0808 800 5000
NSPCC Child Protection in Sport Unit - www.thecpsu.org.uk	
HM Government - www.everychildmatters.gov.uk	
Northumberland Sport www.northumberlandsport.co.uk	

Northumberland Sport Board Membership:

- Alnwick District Council
- BECON
- Berwick upon Tweed Borough Council
- Blyth Valley Borough Council
- Castle Morpeth Borough Council
- English Federation of Disability Sport
- National Governing Bodies of Sport
- North East Federation of Sport and Recreation
- Northumberland College
- Northumberland County Council
- Sport England
- sports coach UK
- Northumberland Care Trust
- Northumberland Schools Sports Partnerships
- Youth Sport Trust
- Tynedale District Council
- University of Northumbria
- Wansbeck District Council
- Womens Sports Foundation

Northumberland
NS Sport



For further information please contact:

Northumberland Sport, Netherton Park, Stannington,
Northumberland, NE61 6EF

Tel: 01670 785020 Fax: 01670 785025

Email: northumberlandsport@northumberland.gov.uk

SAFE IN SPORT



Safeguarding Children
and Vulnerable Adults in Sport

Northumberland
NS Sport