



INTRODUCTION

Everyone involved in sport, education, and youth activities has legal and ethical responsibilities to safeguard children and vulnerable adults. Understanding these responsibilities helps create safe environments and ensures concerns are reported appropriately.



1. DUTY OF CARE

All coaches, volunteers, officials, staff, and leaders must:

- ✓ Protect the health, safety, and well-being of children.
- ✓ Take reasonable steps to prevent harm.
- ✓ Create safe and inclusive environments.
- ✓ Act when concerns arise.
- ✓ Follow safeguarding policies and procedures.



2. MANDATORY REPORTING RESPONSIBILITIES

Individuals must:

- 📢 Report concerns about abuse, neglect, exploitation, or harm.
- 💬 Report disclosures promptly.
- 📋 Follow organisational reporting procedures.
- 👥 Cooperate with safeguarding investigations.
- 📁 Maintain accurate safeguarding records.

3. SAFER RECRUITMENT AND SCREENING

Organisations should:

- 🔍 Conduct background checks where legally permitted.
- 👤 Verify references.
- 🛡️ Follow safer recruitment procedures.
- 🎓 Ensure staff and volunteers receive safeguarding training.
- 👥 Monitor ongoing suitability to work with children.



4. LEGAL CONSEQUENCES OF FAILING TO ACT

Failure to fulfil safeguarding responsibilities may result in:

- ✗ Disciplinary action.
- ✗ Suspension or dismissal.
- ✗ Loss of professional accreditation.
- ✗ Civil liability.
- ✗ Criminal investigation where applicable.



5. RESPONSIBILITIES OF ORGANISATIONS

Organisations must:

- 🛡️ Have safeguarding policies.
- 👤 Appoint Designated Safeguarding Officers.
- 🎓 Provide safeguarding training.
- 🔒 Maintain secure records.
- 💬 Respond appropriately to concerns.



KEY MESSAGE



Safeguarding is both a moral and legal responsibility.

Every adult working with children or vulnerable adults has a duty to protect them from harm and report concerns appropriately.

LEARNING OUTCOMES



By the end of this section learners will be able to:

- ✓ Understand duty of care responsibilities.
- ✓ Recognise legal safeguarding obligations.
- ✓ Explain reporting requirements.
- ✓ Understand organisational responsibilities.
- ✓ Identify consequences of failing to safeguard.



Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility. Together we can create safe environments for all children and vulnerable adults.



REMEMBER
DUTY OF CARE



REPORT CONCERNS



FOLLOW PROCEDURES



PROTECT INDIVIDUALS

