



Safeguarding Policy Statement

Old College Lawn Tennis & Croquet Club acknowledges the duty of care to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and adults at risk. The club is committed to ensuring safeguarding practice reflects statutory responsibilities, government guidance and complies with best practice and LTA requirements. A copy of the club's full **Safeguarding Policy** is available on the website <https://www.oldcollege.co.uk/welfare/>.

The Safeguarding Policy recognises that the welfare and interests of children and adults at risk are paramount in all circumstances. It aims to ensure that regardless of age, ability or disability, gender reassignment, race, religion or belief, sex or sexual orientation, socio-economic background, all children:

- Have a positive and enjoyable sporting experience in a safe and inclusive environment
- Are protected from abuse whilst participating in any activity at Old College.

The Safeguarding Policy and associated **Codes of Conduct** are mandatory for everyone involved in the club. Failure to comply with the policy and procedures will be addressed and may result in exclusion from the club.

As part of our Safeguarding Policy we will:

- Promote and prioritise the safety and well-being of children and adults at risk
- Ensure everyone working with children or adults at risk understands their roles and responsibilities in respect of safeguarding
- Ensure everyone working with children or adults at risk have appropriate background checks, and training to recognise and respond to signs of abuse, neglect and other safeguarding concerns.
- Ensure robust safeguarding arrangements and procedures are in operation
- Encourage and maintain a culture where people feel able to raise a genuine safeguarding concern and are confident that it will be taken seriously
- Ensure appropriate action is taken in the event of incidents/concerns of abuse and support provided to the individual/s who raise or disclose the concern
- Ensure that confidential records of all safeguarding concerns are maintained and securely stored.
- Prevent the employment/deployment of unsuitable individuals

Reporting a concern

If a child or an adult at risk is in immediate danger or risk of harm, you should:

1. Contact the police by calling 999.
2. Inform the Club Welfare Officer

If there is no immediate danger or risk of harm you should report any concern about the welfare of a child or adult at risk to the Club Welfare Officer

Our current Welfare Officer is **Emma Michell (07907803472; emmamichell@ymail.com)**.

Whistleblowing

Anyone who does not feel comfortable raising a concern with the Club Welfare Officer should contact the LTA Safeguarding Team directly on **020 8487 7000**, the Local Authority Designated Officer (LADO) or the NSPCC on **0808 800 5000**. Further details about whistleblowing can be found in the club's safeguarding policy.