

# TWO COUNTIES NETBALL LEAGUE

## CHILD PROTECTION POLICY

Our club has adopted the England Netball Child Protection Policy

### *Child Protection Statement*

"Our Organisation and other have a duty of care for young people and a responsibility to protect them from harm"

A child is defined as being under 18 years of age (The Children Act, 1989)

**Two Counties Netball League** (TCNL) recognises its responsibilities under the terms of the Race Relations Act 1976, Sex Discrimination Act 1975, the Children Act 1989, the Protection of Children Act, 1999, the Disability Discrimination Act 1996 and the Human Rights Act, 1998. Every child who participates in Netball should be able to do so in a fun, safe environment and be protected from harm. **Two Counties Netball League places** the highest priority on their safety and enjoyment and recognises that they have a duty towards children within the sport and any member providing Netball opportunities must do so with the highest possible standard of care.

**Two Counties Netball League** has based its Duty of Care Guidelines on the following core values and principles:

### **Core Values**

- All young people's Netball experiences must be guided by what is best for that young person
- Adults interacting with young people in Netball should do so with integrity and respect for the child
- All young people's Netball should be conducted in an atmosphere of fair play
- Young peoples' Netball should be conducted in a safe, positive and encouraging atmosphere
- Adults who take a responsibility for young people in Netball have a duty to ensure that they are competent to provide safe and rewarding experiences for those in their care, through appropriate training and education



## **Principles**

- The welfare of young people is paramount
- All people, but especially young people, whatever their culture, disability, gender, language, racial origin, religious belief or sexual identity, have the right to protection from abuse
- All incidents or poor practice, suspicions and allegations should be taken seriously and responded to swiftly and appropriately
- It is the responsibility of child protection experts to determine whether or not abuse has taken place, but it is everyone's responsibility to report any concerns.
- Confidentiality should be upheld in line with the Data Protection Act 1998 and the Human Rights Act 1998.

Young people have a lot to gain from Netball. Their natural sense of fun and spontaneity can blossom in positive sporting environments which promote progress in a child-centred way. Netball provides an excellent medium in which young people can learn new skills, become more confident and maximise their own unique potential.