

What is Safeguarding?:

Safeguarding is putting the policies and guidelines in place to protect the welfare of children and adults from people who may wish to cause them harm.

Coaches, officials, staff and volunteers working within table tennis who have regular contact with the most vulnerable within our sporting community have a key role to play in identifying and recognising when abuse may be occurring, whether that is inside or outside of our sport.

What is Child Protection?:

Child Protection is the part of the safeguarding process, protecting individual children identified as suffering or likely to suffer significant harm.

Who are Adults at Risk?

An adult at risk is an individual aged 18 years and over who:

- a) has needs for care and support (whether or not the local authority is meeting any of those needs) AND;
- b) is experiencing, or at risk of, abuse or neglect, AND;
- c) as a result of those care and support needs is unable to protect themselves from either the risk of, or the experience of abuse or neglect.

Recognising Abuse:

It is important that if anyone involved in table tennis sees or hears anything that gives them cause for concern relating to the welfare of either a child or an adult then they have a duty of care to report that concern.

Coaches, officials, staff and volunteers who work closely with those most vulnerable people in our sport are key in identifying and recognising when abuse is taking place. For more information [click here for Types of Abuse](#).

Reporting a Concern:

1. **Call 999** if the child or adult is at immediate risk of harm.
2. If you have a non urgent safeguarding concern about a child or an adult, you must raise this with the Welfare Officer or committee member immediately.
3. All cases must be reported to the Table Tennis England safeguarding team within 48 hours by:
 - Calling **01908 208860 option 3**
 - Emailing safeguarding@tabletennisengland.co.uk
 - Completing the incident form on the Table Tennis England website

Please note:

- It is not the responsibility of anyone involved in table tennis to decide whether abuse is or has taken place, but it is everyone's duty and responsibility to act on any concerns.
- For more information see the Safeguarding Reporting Flowchart
- Please note Table Tennis England operates a Whistleblowers Policy