



ONLINE SAFETY POLICY STATEMENT

LBHSC works with children and young people and families as part of its activities. These include offering swimming sessions from learn to swim to competitive level. We also offer leadership programmes and support our 16+ years to do swimming related courses.

The purpose of this policy statement is to:

- Ensure the safety and wellbeing of children and young people is paramount when adults, young people or children are using the internet, social media or mobile devices.
- Provide staff and volunteers with the overarching principles that guide our approach to online safety
- Ensure that, LBHSC operates in line with our values and within the latest version of Swim England Wavepower Safeguarding Policy (www.swimming.org/swimengland/wavepower-child-safeguarding-for-clubs/) which includes online safeguarding and the law in terms of how we use online devices.
- The policy statement applies to all staff, volunteers, children and young people and anyone involved in LBHSC's activities.

Legal framework

This policy has been drawn up on the basis of legislation, policy and guidance that seeks to protect children in England. Summaries of the key legislation and guidance are available on:
Online abuse learning.nspcc.org.uk/child-abuse-and-neglect/online-abuse
Bullying learning.nspcc.org.uk/child-abuse-and-neglect/bullying
Child protection learning.nspcc.org.uk/child-protection-system

We believe that:

- Children and young people should never experience abuse of any kind.
- Children should be able to use the internet for education and personal development, but safeguards need to be in place to ensure they are kept safe at all times.

We recognise that:

- The online world provides everyone with many opportunities; however it can also present risks and challenges
- We have a duty to ensure that all children, young people and adults involved in our organisation are protected from potential harm online
- We have a responsibility to help keep children and young people safe online, whether or not they are using London Borough of Hounslow's network and devices
- All children, regardless of age, disability, gender realignment, race, religion or belief, sex or sexual orientation, have the right to equal protection from all types of harm or abuse
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- Working in partnership with children, young people, their parents, carers and other agencies is essential in promoting young people's welfare and in helping young people to be responsible in their approach to online safety.

We will seek to keep children and young people safe by:

- Appointing an online safety coordinators: Alan Smith & Carol Powell email: welfare@lbhsc.org.uk
- Providing clear and specific directions to staff and volunteers on how to behave online through our behaviour code for adults
- Supporting and encouraging the young people using our service to use the internet, social media and mobile phones in a way that keeps them safe and shows respect for others
- Supporting and encouraging parents and carers to do what they can to keep their children safe online. A factsheet for parents detailing online safety is posted on our Club's Facebook page and website.
- Developing an online safety agreement for use with young people and their parents/carers
- Developing clear and robust procedures to enable us to respond appropriately to any incidents of inappropriate online behaviour, whether by an adult or a child/young person

