



Sedgley Park Rugby Football Club

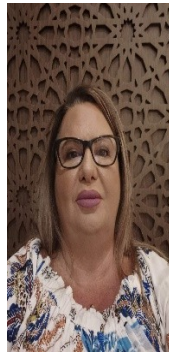
Safeguarding Policy

1. Sedgley Park RUFC acknowledges its responsibility to safeguard the welfare of all children involved in Sedgley Park RUFC from harm.
2. Sedgley Park RUFC confirms that it adheres to the Rugby Football Union's Safeguarding Policy and the procedures, practices and guidelines and endorse and adopt the Policy Statement contained in that document and any successor policy.

[Safeguarding | Rugby Football Union \(englandrugby.com\)](http://englandrugby.com)

3. A child is anyone under the age of 18 engaged in any rugby union activity. However, where a 17 year old player is playing in the adult game it is essential that every reasonable precaution is taken to ensure that their safety and wellbeing are protected, including the completion of all necessary documentation and the inclusion of a mentor for young players playing open age rugby (adult rugby).
4. The Key Principles of the RFU Safeguarding Policy are that:
 - The welfare of the child is, and must always be, paramount to any other considerations.
 - All participants regardless of age, gender, ability or disability, race, faith, culture, size, shape, language or sexual identity have the right to protection from abuse or harm.
 - All allegations or suspicions of abuse, neglect, harm and poor practice will be taken seriously and responded to swiftly, fairly and appropriately.

- Working in partnership with other organisations, statutory agencies, parents, carers, children and young people is essential for the welfare of children.
 - Children have a right to expect support, and personal and social development delivered by an appropriately recruited, vetted and managed in relation to their participation in rugby union, whether they are playing, volunteering or officiating in the community or professional areas of the sport.
1. Sedgley Park RUFC recognises that all children have the right to participate in sport in a safe, positive and enjoyable environment whilst at the same time being protected from abuse, neglect, harm and poor practice. Sedgley Park RUFC recognises that this is the responsibility of everyone involved, in whatever capacity, at the club.
 1. Sedgley Park RUFC will implement and comply with the RFU Code of Conduct and the Codes of Conduct for Coaches, Spectators and Officials as appropriate.
 2. The Club Safeguarding Officer is Tracy Lumer, email tracy.lumer@bolton.gov.uk, mobile number: 07789031471.



2. The Club Deputy Safeguarding Officer Shelley Wharmby, email: s.wharmby@sky.com, mobile number: 07834 405359.



If you witness or are aware of an incident where the welfare of a child has been put at risk you must, in the first instance, inform the Club Safeguarding Officer. They will then inform the CB Safeguarding Manager and the RFU Safeguarding Team.

If an incident involves the Club Safeguarding Officer you should inform Steve Ward on 07891 637616 or Dave Wild on 07720 510686 and either the CB Safeguarding Manager or the RFU Safeguarding Team.

3. All members of Sedgley Park RUFC who work with children in Regulated Activity must undertake an RFU Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) check in accordance with RFU Regulation 21.
4. Sedgley Park RUFC will ensure that all its members, whether they are coaches, parents, players or officials will comply with the Best Practice Guidance as issued by the RFU. In summary, the following are **NOT** acceptable and will be treated seriously by the club and may result in disciplinary action being taken by the club, the CB or the RFU:
- Working alone with a child.
 - Consuming alcohol whilst responsible for children.
 - Providing alcohol to children or allowing its supply.
 - Smoking in the presence of children.
 - Humiliating children.
 - Inappropriate or unnecessary physical contact with a child.
 - Participating in, or allowing, contact or physical games with children.
 - Having an intimate or sexual relationship with any child developed as a result of being in a 'position of trust.'
 - Making sexually explicit comments or sharing sexually explicit material.
1. Sedgley Park RUFC ensures that all its coaches, officials, parents and spectators are aware that adults **must not** change at the same time, or use the same changing facilities as children.

2. Sedgley Park RUFC will ensure that its coaches and team managers will receive the support and training considered appropriate to their position and role. The RFU “Managing Challenging Behaviour” Policy has been adopted and circulated amongst the club workforce both, voluntary and paid.
3. Any events held on Sedgley Park RUFC premises must comply with this Policy and if appropriate a Safeguarding Plan should be discussed and circulated to those affected. Any tours, overseas or domestic, undertaken by Sedgley Park RUFC must comply with the relevant RFU Regulations and Guidance relating to tours.
4. Sedgley Park RUFC will ensure that if any young player (u7-u18 years) has to attend a Disciplinary Panel Meeting ie Club or County, the Club Safeguarding Officer or Deputy Safeguarding Officer will attend and support the young player to ensure the player’s emotional wellbeing is being considered by the Panel. The Club Safeguarding Officer or Deputy would not have a role in the panel’s functioning, other than supporting the young player.
5. All players will be members of Sedgley Park RUFC for the season and have fully completed their RFU Young Player registration form before playing a match for the club.
6. Sedgley Park RUFC recommend ALL Age Grade players (u7-u18 years) wear a gum shield during any match and during any contact training sessions. Sedgley Park RUFC advise all young players to wear protective headwear during any match and contact training sessions.
7. Sedgley Park RUFC will ensure all team officials are aware of relevant policies within the Mini/Junior & Colts section. The club will ensure that all Coaches and Manager, from each team will attend the ‘Play It Safe’ course. This course is written, delivered and approved by the RFU and ensures continuity throughout the county and the country as a whole.
8. Sedgley Park RUFC will publish the Safeguarding Child and Vulnerable Persons Policy on the Club website together with ensuring its accessibility within the clubhouse to all members.
9. Sedgley Park RUFC expects ALL club members and volunteers (in whatever capacity) together with parents to display a high standard of personal behaviour at all times. All forms of abuse and inappropriate behaviours towards any person either young or old, including sexually explicit comments, or language which causes feelings of being uncomfortable/loss of confidence/self-esteem or dissent to match

officials or the use of obscene or foul language is TOTALLY UNACCEPTABLE and would be dealt with by the Mini/Junior & Colts Executive Committee and/or the Board of Directors of Sedgley Park RUFC.

10. Photographs of any player can make them vulnerable. Only team activity photographs, not individual ones are permitted. Parental consent must be obtained for photographs to be taken and/or used either at Sedgley Park RUFC or away fixtures.
11. All players are to meet for training and matches at a designated point as directed by their team Coach(s) or Manager.

If at any time the team Coach, team manager or Youth section official feels that there is a risk to the safety of players from adverse weather conditions or other dangers, the training or games will be cancelled and all players directed to the safety of the Club house or other designated safe areas.

12. The parent or carer is responsible for the child getting to and leaving the place of training or matches. The guidance for children traveling on their own is any child over the age of eight if the parents/carers deem them responsible can travel to and from the site. Parents are responsible for informing the coaches/manager of the travel arrangements, it is NOT the responsibility of the coach/manager to make transport arrangements. If the coach or manager does not feel the arrangements are suitable for that child this needs to be raised with the safeguarding lead who will communicate with the parent.
13. This policy will be reviewed and amended as required on the commencement of the new rugby season, no later than the 1st of September every year.
14. This policy replaces all previous versions and was approved and adopted by the Executive Committee of the Mini, Junior & Colts section in accordance with the Mini, Junior & Colts Constitution and duly signed by the Chair and CSO on 1st September 2026.
15. This policy has been approved and adopted by the Board of Directors of Sedgley Park RUFC Ltd on 06/10/2026.

Signed Tracy Lumer

Position: SPRUFC Club Safeguarding Officer

Date 01/09/2026

Signed **Paul Cihlar**

Position: Chairman SPRUFC Youth Section

Date 01/09/2026