



Safeguarding policy statement

Note: The terms 'child', 'children' and 'young person' describe any person under the age of 18.

Our statement

Ingleton Swimming Pool acknowledges its duty of care to safeguard and promote the welfare of children, young people and vulnerable adults. It is committed to ensuring safeguarding practice reflects statutory responsibilities, government guidance and complies with best practice.

The policy recognises that the welfare and interests of children 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 experience at Ingleton Swimming Pool in a safe and child-centred environment
- are protected from abuse whilst participating in swimming or other activity on our premises.

We acknowledge that some children, including deaf and disabled children or those from Black, Asian and minoritised ethnic communities, can be particularly vulnerable to abuse and we accept the responsibility to take reasonable and appropriate steps to ensure their welfare.

We are equally committed to ensuring all those who are working at and patronising our premises are treated fairly and with respect. We strive to preserve dignity; promote good health and mental health; and support individuals to develop and thrive.

Ingleton Swimming Pool is committed to being compliant with and promoting statutory obligations in line with the Equality Act 2010 (an updated version of this legislation can be accessed at: www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2010/15/contents)



Our policy

What we'll do

As part of our safeguarding policy we will:

- promote and prioritise the safety and wellbeing of children and young people
- value, listen to and respect children
- ensure robust safeguarding arrangements and procedures are in operation
- adopt safeguarding best practice through our policies, procedures and code of conduct for staff and volunteers (to keep ourselves updated on best practice we regularly refer to <https://learning.nspcc.org.uk/safeguarding-child-protection> and <https://thecpsu.org.uk>)
- ensure everyone understands their roles and responsibilities in respect of safeguarding and is provided with appropriate learning opportunities to recognise, identify and respond to signs of abuse, neglect and other safeguarding concerns relating to children and young people
- provide effective management for staff and volunteers through supervision, support, training and quality assurance measures so that all staff and volunteers know about our policies, procedures and behaviour codes and follow them confidently and competently
- ensure appropriate action is taken in the event of all incidents or concerns, from lower-level concerns and poor practice to more serious abuse,
- provide support to the individual(s) who raise or report the concern
- ensure that confidential, detailed and accurate records of all safeguarding concerns are maintained and securely stored
- record and store information securely, in line with data protection legislation and guidance
- prevent the employment or deployment of unsuitable individuals by recruiting and selecting staff and volunteers safely, ensuring all necessary checks are made
- appoint a nominated safeguarding lead for children and young people, a deputy and a lead trustee/board member for safeguarding
- develop and implement rules around use of WhatsApp for staff communication (mindful that some staff are under 18), that promotes effective communication, whilst protecting personal time and well-being
- make sure that children, young people and their parents know where to go for help if they have a concern
- prohibit photography and video recording both in the pool and on the premises

The policy and procedures will be widely promoted and are mandatory for everyone involved in Ingleton Swimming Pool. Failure to comply with the policy and procedures will be addressed without delay and may ultimately result in dismissal or exclusion from the organisation.



Use of Pool and Surrounding Areas

- Parents and carers have a responsibility to supervise and manage the conduct of their children whilst on pool premises.
- For a list of our expectations of conduct (Pool Rules) see Appendix 1
- In the event that children can swim well enough and staff feel it would be appropriate, children may be at the pool without a parent or guardian (staff will decide on a case by case basis whether to allow unaccompanied children into the pool and decisions around this will be mindful of health and safety, safeguarding and equality legislation). All decisions will be made in accordance with our pool policy on adult to child ratios (see Appendix 2)
- If pool staff feel that any pool users are behaving in such a way as to be a danger to themselves or others, whilst in or around the pool, action will be taken as follows:
 1. Whistle and signal to indicate that behaviour is inappropriate
 2. Parent/guardian will be alerted and expectations around appropriate conduct will be explained in a kind and respectful way
 3. In the absence of parent/guardian a lifeguard or other staff member will explain expectations around conduct directly to the child in a kind and respectful way
 4. If a pool user continues to fail to meet expectations of appropriate conduct, in order to ensure safety and preserve the rights of all users, they will be asked to leave the pool and/or the premises.
- If pool staff feel that any pool users are behaving in such a way as to impact on the rights of other users, in respect of the Equality Act 2010, action will be taken as follows:
 1. Whistle and signal to indicate that behaviour is inappropriate
 2. Parent/guardian will be alerted and expectations around appropriate conduct will be explained in a kind and respectful way
 3. In the absence of parent/guardian a lifeguard or other staff member will explain expectations around conduct directly to the child in a kind and respectful way
 4. If a pool user continues to fail to meet expectations of appropriate conduct, in order to ensure safety and preserve the rights of all users, they will be asked to leave the pool and/or the premises.



Use of Changing Rooms and Showering Facilities

- Our changing facilities are unsupervised.
- Our changing facilities, showers and toilets may be cleaned by male or female staff; as much as possible cleaning and maintenance will be carried out whilst the facilities are not in use.
- In the event that staff have concerns around the health and safety or safeguarding of changing room users, they may enter the changing room as follows:
 - As much as possible a second staff member or other appropriate adult should enter and remain with the staff member in the changing room.
 - On entering the changing room, the staff member should loudly announce that they are entering and state why.
 - Staff will remain in the changing room only as long as it is necessary to keep users safe/ maintain a safe environment.
 - In the event that a staff member has had to enter the changing rooms to deal with an issue, the details of the event must be recorded and sent to the safeguarding officer to be logged.
- School groups, or other groups, will be responsible for supervising the changing rooms in line with their own safeguarding policies.

Use of Accessible Toilet/Shower Facility

- We have an accessible toilet / shower facility which may be used by a range of users as appropriate.
- Users may choose to use the accessible facilities or the main facilities.
- Users may have reasons why they wish to use the accessible facilities, these may not be obvious to others and users may not wish to, and should not be asked to state why.
- Here is a list of examples of times when users may wish to use the accessible facilities – this is not an exhaustive list:
 - * for wheelchair access
 - * for religious reasons
 - * for reasons relating to sex, gender or sexual orientation



Monitoring

This policy will be reviewed every three years, or in the following circumstances:

- changes in legislation and/or government guidance
- as a result of any other significant change or event.

This policy was last reviewed on 8 April 2026.

Signed: Claire Hargreaves

Contact details

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Board Champion for Safeguarding	Jayne Lis		

**In a safeguarding emergency,
where a child is at immediate risk of harm, call 999.**



Appendix 1: Expectations of Conduct/Pool Rules:

For the safety and enjoyment of yourself and others, we respectfully ask that you follow our pool rules:

- Move sensibly around pool sides
- Use facilities courteously
- Communicate respectfully
- Follow instructions from lifeguards
- Respect other people's space
- Wait for a clear space before diving (deep end only) or jumping into the pool
- Show respect: No swearing, bombing, dunking or other disrespectful/dangerous behaviour
- Feel free to ask the lifeguards for advice or guidance

Appendix 2: Ingleton Pool Swimmer Age and Ratio Rules

- Children under the age of 8 years **MUST** be accompanied at all times in the water by a responsible person of at least 16 years of age.
- One responsible person may accompany a maximum of two children under the age of 8 years old.
- Children's swimming ability will **NOT** override this policy under any circumstances.
- Non-swimmers and weak swimmers must remain in the shallow end and not go beyond the blue line.
- Lifeguards will inform swimmers that they must not go beyond the blue line, if they have concerns about their swimming ability.