



Welfare Policy

Chester-le-Street & District Athletics Club

Welfare Policy

Chester-le-Street & District Athletics Club is committed to ensuring the welfare of its athletes, volunteers and coaches.

This policy and the accompanying procedures are based on the 'Adult Safeguarding Policy 2024' and 'Children's Safeguarding Policy 2024' produced by the governing body for athletics i.e. UK Athletics.

The policy has been written to support the welfare of all people taking part in athletics who participate in activities organised by Chester-le-Street & District Athletics Club.

Policy Statement

At Chester-le-Street & District Athletics Club, we are committed to creating an environment where everyone can thrive and participate safely. We believe all participants have the right to be protected from abuse, harm, maltreatment and misconduct, and that every individual involved in the club has a responsibility to help safeguard and support others. To support this commitment, we will:

- Provide the highest standard of care for all children and vulnerable adults involved in club activities.
- Recognise and fulfil our moral and legal responsibilities to safeguard children and vulnerable adults, promote their wellbeing and protect them from harm.
- Respect and promote the rights, wishes and feelings of all children and vulnerable adults participating in athletics.
- Ensure that coaches, officials and volunteers receive appropriate training and support to follow best practice in safeguarding and equality, protect participants from harm, and protect themselves from false allegations.
- Require all coaches and volunteers working with children and vulnerable adults to adhere to the Club's Welfare Policy, Procedures and Code of Conduct, and to undergo the necessary safeguarding and DBS checks.
- Ensure that photographs, videos and other images of children and vulnerable adults are only taken, used and shared with the appropriate consent and in accordance with UK Athletics guidance.
- Respond promptly and appropriately to any safeguarding concerns or allegations and implement fair and effective disciplinary and appeals procedures where required.



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Aims

The aims of the Club in relation Welfare are to:

- Ensure the highest possible standards of safety and welfare for all children and vulnerable adults engaged in athletics activities and events organised by the Club.
- Embed a process of continuous improvement in its ongoing work with children and vulnerable adults in athletics.
- Work with its partners to ensure that quality assured training is offered to all coaches and volunteers engaged in club programmes for children and vulnerable adults.
- Adopt and promote good practice in the welfare and protection of children and vulnerable adults, and other athletics personnel.
- Demonstrate ethical standards of leadership and behaviour in all its work.

Welfare Policy Principles

The main principles underpinning this policy are:

Safety – the welfare of the child/vulnerable adult will always be paramount.

Equality – the right of everyone involved in athletics to equitable treatment, regardless of age, sex, race, religion, ability, sexual orientation or social background, will be upheld.

Responsiveness – all allegations or suspicions of abuse or violations of children's or vulnerable adult welfare will be taken seriously and acted upon appropriately and speedily.

Consent – those with parental responsibility will be consulted if it becomes necessary to invoke the procedures within this policy.

Compliance with the statutory system – Chester-le-Street & District Athletics Club will operate within the law and in partnership with UK Athletics, Social Services Departments, Police Child Protection Units, and other relevant agencies in order to ensure compliance with this policy.

Fairness - the human rights of coaches or volunteers facing allegations will be embodied in club procedures.

Date reviewed: 07/07/26