

SVCC Changing Room and Showering Facilities Policy

The Children Act defines a person under 18 years as a child.

Cricket is unusual in that children play, compete, practice, train and socialise amongst adults. Parents/carers, coaches, team managers and volunteers should be aware that there are circumstances where children cricket players may find themselves changing in facilities where adults are present in the area. We all have a duty of care to ensure risks are minimised by implementing the following policy:

- While groups of children are using changing facilities, coaches and other volunteers must not enter unless absolutely necessary;
- Any strictly necessary adult access to changing rooms should be announced verbally before entering. Signage should be used to indicate when the changing room is in use by children;
- Children should be encouraged to arrive and leave in their playing kit and are not required to change/shower at the ground;
- It is recognised that some 16 and 17 year olds may wish to change/shower alongside adults in communal changing rooms. Such a situation should be agreed in advance with the Club Safeguarding Officer, the child and the parent/carer – it is essential that no pressure is applied for a child to make any particular choice;
- Mixed gender teams must always have separate and clearly signed changing facilities. If this is not possible, players should have a specific time allocated to using the changing facilities, based on their gender, and this should be strictly adhered to or they would not change on site;
- Mobile phones or any other equipment capable of capturing still or moving images should not be used in the changing room or showering areas when people are changing;
- “Targeted: taking of images or filming without an individual’s consent or where an individual has a reasonable expectation of privacy (such as in a changing room or shower type facility) could constitute a criminal offence;
- Any individual taking or sharing an indecent image of a child commits a child sexual offence;
- Using gender specific changing facilities can be a source of stress for transgender and non-binary participants. SVCC will support these participants to use the changing rooms that they feel most comfortable with, discussed and agreed on a case-by-case basis, taking into consideration the welfare of everyone concerned.