

# UNSUPERVISED CHILDREN

## Safeguarding and Child Protection – Everyone's Responsibility (Children Act 2004)

### Information for all parents, guardians and carers

#### Frequently Asked Questions:

#### **What age can I leave my child unsupervised at the Club?**

In line with guidance from the NSPCC, all children under 13 must be supervised by their parent, carer or guardian. This is due to concerns that they may not be mature enough to deal with an emergency or certain situations.

Children over 13 need parental consent to be unsupervised. It is a parents responsibility to teach their child how to respond to emergencies that may arise so they feel confident about their child being unsupervised.

For all children over 13, please consider Club Induction with their parents to communicate health and safety operations of the Club along with who to contact in an emergency (this will have been required on the parental online registration of any course).

#### **Can children under 13 be left unsupervised at this Venue?**

**No.** Whilst this Club has Child Protection policies in place, along with a designated Child Protection Officer, this is to support safeguarding whilst children and young people are present, or respond to any issues that may occur, not to take on parental responsibilities.

Legally, a Club is not a designated child care arrangement and therefore children under 13 cannot be left unattended.

#### **All the Club members know my child and can supervise my child when I am not there?**

You may know all club members well, however a specific arrangement needs to be made by you and a specific adult member of the Club to supervise your child at all times and your child needs to be aware of the arrangement. Simply being on Club premises with lots of adults is not acceptable.

**Val Finney**  
**Welfare Officer**