

REDBOURN TENNIS CLUB ANTI-BULLYING POLICY

Our anti-bullying policy sets out how we feel about bullying as a club, what we will do to tackle it and how we will support children and young people who experience or display bullying behaviour.

Bullying

All forms of bullying will be acted upon; everybody at the club has a responsibility to work together to stop bullying. Bullying behaviour can include: physically pushing, kicking, hitting, pinching, name calling, spreading rumours, persistent teasing and humiliation or the continual ignoring of others, posting of derogatory or abusive comments, videos or images on social media, racial, homophobic, transphobic or sexist comments, taunts or gestures, sexual comments, unwanted physical contact.

Our club will:

Recognise its duty of care and responsibility to safeguard all players from harm, ensure that bullying behaviour is not tolerated or condoned and require all members of the club to adhere to this policy. All reports of bullying from children and young people will be investigated.

Each participant, coach, volunteer or official will:

Respect the feelings and views of others, recognise that everyone is equal. Incidents of bullying behaviour must be reported as by doing nothing you are condoning the behaviour.

Supporting children

As a club, we will create an “open door” ethos where children feel confident to talk to an adult about bullying behaviour or any other issue that affects them. Anyone who reports an incident of bullying will be listened to carefully and reports will be taken seriously. Reported experience of bullying behaviour will be investigated and will involve listening carefully to all those involved. Children experiencing bullying behaviour will be supported and helped to uphold their right to play and live in a safe environment. Those who display bullying behaviour will be supported and encouraged to develop better relationship. We will ensure that sanctions are proportionate and fair.

Support to the parents/guardians

Parents or guardians will be advised on the club’s bullying policy and practice. Any experience of bullying behaviour will be discussed with the child’s parents or guardians, parents will be consulted on action to be taken (for both victim and bully) and we’ll agree on these actions together.

Useful contacts:

- NSPCC Helpline 0808 800 5000
- Childline 0800 1111 / www.childline.org.uk
- Kidscape www.kidscape.org.uk
- Anti-Bullying Alliance www.antibullyingalliance.org