



Whitchurch Tennis Club

Use of the Changing Facilities Policy



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Last updated: February 2024 Next Review: February 2027(or earlier if there is a change in legislation)

LTA Version 1.1 January 2023

USE OF CHANGING FACILITIES POLICY

Whitchurch Tennis Club (Whitchurch TC) strives to ensure that all children (anyone under 18) are safeguarded from abuse and have an enjoyable tennis experience.

This policy applies to all staff, coaches, volunteers, players, parents/carers and any other individuals associated with Whitchurch TC.

As indicated within LTA guidance, there are a range of factors (e.g., age of players, the specific needs of players, group dynamics, the location of courts in relation to the changing rooms, the activity taking place), that need to be taken into account when identifying appropriate supervision arrangements for children. The ongoing risk assessment will take account of such factors in order to identify appropriate arrangements that prioritise safety as well as respecting privacy and dignity.

This document sets out the Whitchurch TC policy for the use of our changing rooms in so far as is reasonably practicable. It should be noted that the toilets are located within the changing rooms, consequently it may not always be possible to ensure that adults and children are not within the changing rooms at the same time, especially when there is no notice e.g., an adult is already getting changed when a child unexpectedly enters to access the toilets and vice versa.

1. Children under the age of 12 (children at primary school) are required to have parental supervision whilst at our venue and not participating in any venue sessions, such as coaching lessons or tennis camps.
2. Where possible, groups of children will have sole use of changing rooms. This reduces any risks and potential vulnerability associated with mixing adults and children when changing and showering.
3. If adults and children need to share our changing rooms, they will do so at different times.
4. Under no circumstances will adult staff, coaches or volunteers change or shower at the same time as children using the changing rooms.
5. Mixed gender groups of children will have access to separate changing rooms or use the same changing room but at different times.
6. If we are made aware that a child or adult self-identifies as a gender that differs from the gender they were assigned at birth, we will work with them and their parents/carers (where it relates to a child) to make reasonable adjustments to changing arrangements to suit their needs (**NB:** for more information on this please go to <https://thecpsu.org.uk/help-advice/topics/lgbt-young-people-and-sport/>).
7. Mobile phones and other electronic devices must not be used in changing rooms.
8. For younger groups of children, a DBS checked member of staff or volunteer will wait outside the changing rooms to allow children to call for assistance if required.

9. In the event of changing facilities being out of bounds, children, parents and travelling teams/players will be made aware prior to the game and advised to make alternative arrangements and to take appropriate additional clothing e.g., tracksuits etc.

RELATED POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

This policy should be read alongside our other policies and procedures, including:

Safeguarding Policy and Procedures (including Whistleblowing Policy)	Safeguarding at Events, Activities and Competitions: LTA Guidance
Anti-Bullying Policy	Safe Recruitment
Code of Conduct Policy: LTA Policy	Online Safety and Communication Policy
Diversity and Inclusion Policy	Photography and Filming Policy
Others as may be identified from time to time	

This policy has been proposed as a result of a consultation exercise undertaken by a sub-committee consisting of two Welfare Officers, the Head Coach and the Men's and Ladies' Captains.

This policy is reviewed every three years (or earlier if there is a change in national legislation).

This policy is approved and ratified by:

Position	Name	Date
Chairperson on behalf of Whitchurch TC Committee	Mike Lubienski	5.02.24
Welfare Officer	Jackie Garland	5.02.24
Welfare Officer	Aled Evans	5.02.24