

Pelaw Community Bowling Club

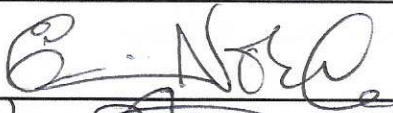
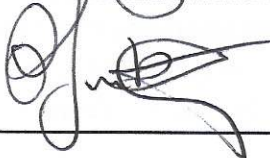
Safeguarding Policy

Version 2.2

Prepared by: Mr Paul Cairns, Gateshead Council

Reviewed by: Mr Geoffrey R. Dunkley

Approved by: Mr Eric Noble

Mr E. Noble	President	
Mr R. Storey	Secretary	
Mr. G. Dunkley	Chairman	
Mrs M. Morton	Treasurer	
Mrs S. Williamson	Catering Manager	
Mr Brian Warden	Trustee	

Implementation Date: 1st November 2018

Reviewed: 22nd January 2026

1. Definitions

Child – anyone who is under the age of 18.

Young Child – a child who is under the age of 18.

Young Person – anyone who is over the age of 16, but under the age of 18. At the age of 16, young person will become eligible to have a membership.

Vulnerable Adult – a person aged 18 or over whose ability to protect themselves from violence, abuse or neglect is significantly impaired through physical or mental disability or illness, through old age or otherwise.

2. Introduction and Principles

Pelaw Community Bowling Club agrees that Children, Young People and Vulnerable Adults are all welcome at the green, that we have a duty to keep them safe and that action **must** be taken if any situation causes concern.

Pelaw Community Bowling Club acknowledges the duty of care to Safeguard and promote the Welfare of Children Young People and Vulnerable Adults and is committed to ensuring that safeguarding practice reflects statutory responsibilities (including The Children's Act of 1989) and Gateshead Council guidance.

This policy aims to ensure that regardless of age, ability or disability, gender reassignment, race, religion or belief, sex or sexual orientation, or socio-economic background, all Children, Young People and Vulnerable Adults should be:

- Listened to and heard,
- Valued and treated as individuals,
- Respected for their identity and uniqueness,
- Encouraged and praised,
- Involved in decisions, as appropriate,
- Have a positive and enjoyable experience whilst using Pelaw Community Bowling Club, in a safe environment.
- Protected from abuse whilst participating in club activities.

As part of our Safeguarding Policy, with regard to Children, Young People and Vulnerable Adults, Pelaw Community Bowling Club will

- Accept the responsibility to take reasonable and appropriate steps to ensure their welfare,
- Promote and prioritise their safety and wellbeing,
- Ensure that all volunteers understand their roles and responsibilities in respect of safeguarding,

- Ensure appropriate action is taken in the event of incidents or concerns of abuse and support provided to the individual(s) who raise or disclose the concern,
- Ensure that safeguarding concerns are raised and appropriate advice is sought,
- Prevent the employment or deployment of unsuitable individuals,
- Ensure robust safeguarding arrangements and procedures are in operation.

The policy will be widely promoted and is mandatory for everyone involved in Pelaw Community Bowling Club.

Failure to comply with the policy and procedures will be addressed without delay and may ultimately result in dismissal or exclusion from the club.

3. Disclosure & Barring Services (DBS) Checks

The policy acknowledges that normal day to day volunteers' duties do not require, or are eligible for, a DBS check.

Pelaw Community Bowling Club understands however, that there may be a need for DBS checks, if new activities are developed that result in a higher level of regular contact with unsupervised Children, Young People or Vulnerable Adults.

4. Safeguarding Children and Young People

i. Good Practice in the Green Environment

Pelaw Community Bowling Club will adopt the following good practice in relation to safeguarding children at the green:

- Volunteers will avoid being alone with a Child or Young Person at any time.
- There must always be more than one adult present during activities with Children and Young People.
- All parents should be encouraged to accompany children during activities, (this is essential for Young Children under the age of 18).
- All Children and Young People should be treated with respect and have a right to personal privacy.
- Be aware that any personal contact with a Child or Young Person may be misinterpreted.
- Challenge unacceptable behaviour and report all allegations or suspicions of abuse.

- If a volunteer has a safeguarding concern about a Child or Young Person in the green environment, then they should seek advice or report these concerns following the guidance in Section 6.

ii. Safeguarding unaccompanied Young Children in the Green

A poster containing the following statement will be displayed at the green

"Parents or carers must not leave Young Children under the age of 18 unattended at the green"

Pelaw Community Bowling Club will adopt the following guidelines if a child aged less than 8 years old is unaccompanied:

- Volunteers should avoid being alone with the child.
- Volunteers should not ask the child to leave the green. The child will be safer in the green than outside on the streets.
- If a volunteer has safeguarding concerns about an unattended child in the green environment, then they should seek advice or report these concerns, following the guidance in Section 6.
- Otherwise, Volunteers ask the child to ring a responsible adult to collect them or make the call themselves.
- When the parent or carer comes to the green to collect the child, volunteers should have a tactful word with them and mention that ***"Parents or Carers must not leave Young Children under the age of 8, unattended at the green."***
- The identity of the responsible adult must be ascertained before the child is transferred into their custody.
- The following details must be collected from the responsible adult and noted in the Daily Log:
 - Name of Child, Address
 - Name of responsible adult, Address, Contact telephone number, Relationship to the child, Method of identification e.g. Driving Licence.
- The Safeguarding Lead for Pelaw Community Bowling Club must be informed of any incidences of unaccompanied children in the green.

iii. Safeguarding School Non-attenders

A situation which volunteers may face is that of school non-attenders using the green during the school day.

This must be challenged, as children of school age should attend school unless they are being taught at home.

If a child of school age is seen in the green during school hours, they should be approached and asked why they are not at school.

- If they say that they are 'doing a project', they should have a note from school to support this.
- If they say they are 'off sick', they should be at home.

There will be some situations which are not clear-cut and where volunteers need to be flexible and use common sense.

The interests of the child should be paramount, but you also need to ensure that you are not putting yourself at risk.

If a volunteer has a safeguarding concern about a school non-attender at the green, then they should seek advice or report these concerns following the guidance in Section 6.

5. Safeguarding Vulnerable Adults

Pelaw Community Bowling Club recognises that the green will be used by Children and Young People, but will also be used by Vulnerable Adults. Adults may be vulnerable as result of age, disability or illness.

The key principles of safeguarding identified in Section 2; Introduction and Principles apply to Vulnerable Adults, as well as Children and Young People.

If a volunteer has a safeguarding concern about an adult in the green environment then they should seek advice or report these concerns.

Advice can be sought for Vulnerable Adults in the same way as for children or young people, following the guidance outlined in Section 6.

6. Safeguarding Good Practice – Reporting Concerns

Pelaw Community Bowling Club recognises that the interests of the Child, Young Person or Vulnerable Adult should be paramount, but that also there is a need to ensure that volunteers are not put at risk.

If a volunteer has any concerns about a Child, Young Person or Vulnerable Adult, Pelaw Community Bowling Club understands that the golden rule is:

DO SOMETHING – Doing nothing is not an option.

If a volunteer is unsure how to act in any situation, he/she should contact Gateshead Council's Duty Social Worker as follows:

For Children:

Phone Gateshead Council's Children's Services (in confidence) on:

0191 433 2653 (office hours: Monday – Friday 08:30 to 17:00)

0191 477 0844 (out of hours, at night, at weekends and bank holidays)

For Adults:

Adult Social Care Direct – **0191 433 7033** (24 hours a day, 7 days a week)

In an Emergency:

Contact 999

The safeguarding leader for Pelaw Community Bowling Club must also be informed of any concerns that are reported:

Mr Geoffrey Dunkley

Telephone: 07960 513108

7. Monitoring of Policy

The policy will be reviewed a year after development and then every two years thereafter, or in the following circumstances:

- Changes in legislation or Council guidance.
- As a result of any other significant change or event.

Date / Time	
Event	
Name of Child	
Address	
Name of Responsible Adult	
Address / Telephone No.	
ID (eg drivers license)	
Relationship to the Child	
Date / Time	
Event	
Name of Child	
Address	
Name of Responsible Adult	
Address / Telephone No.	
ID (eg drivers license)	
Relationship to the Child	
Date / Time	
Event	
Name of Child	
Address	
Name of Responsible Adult	
Address / Telephone No.	
ID (eg drivers license)	
Relationship to the Child	