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**Child Protection Policy Statement**

Ketton Panthers acknowledges the duty of care to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and is committed to ensuring safeguarding practice. The club reflects statutory responsibilities, government guidance and complies with best practice and British Triathlon’s requirements.

The policy recognises that the welfare and interests of children are paramount in all circumstances. It aims to ensure that regardless of age, gender, religion or beliefs, ethnicity, disability, sexual orientation or socio- economic background, all children:-

* have a positive and enjoyable experience of sport at Ketton Panthers in a safe and child centered environment
* are protected from abuse whilst participating in Triathlons or outside of the activity.

Ketton Panthers acknowledges that some children, including disabled children and young people or those from ethnic minority communities, can be particularly vulnerable to abuse and we accept the responsibility to take reasonable and appropriate steps to ensure their welfare.

As part of our safeguarding policy Ketton Panthers will:-

* promote and prioritise the safety and wellbeing of children and young people
* ensure everyone understands their roles and responsibilities in respect of safeguarding and is provided with appropriate learning opportunities to recognise, identify and respond to signs of abuse, neglect and other safeguarding concerns relating to children and young people
* ensure appropriate action is taken in the event of incidents/concerns of abuse and support provided to the individual/s who raise or disclose the concern
* ensure that confidential, detailed and accurate records of all safeguarding concerns are maintained and securely stored
* prevent the employment/deployment of unsuitable individuals
* ensure robust safeguarding arrangements and procedures are in operation.

The policy and procedures will be widely promoted and are mandatory for everyone involved in Ketton Panthers. Failure to comply with the policy and procedures will be addressed without delay and may ultimately result in dismissal/exclusion from the organisation.

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

* changes in legislation and/or government guidance
* as required by the Local Safeguarding Children Board, UK Sport and/or Home Country Sports Councils and British Triathlon.
* as a result of any other significant change or event.

Ketton Panthers acknowledges and adheres to the guidance in the British Triathlon’s  guide for coaches ‘[Safeguarding and protecting children and vulnerable adults](http://sussextristars.org/s/safeguarding_and_protecting_children_policy__3_.pdf)’,( https://www.britishtriathlon.org/britain/documents/about/child-protection/safeguarding\_and\_protecting\_children\_policy\_\_3\_.pdf) and we recommend that this is read by all coaches and parents.  We expect coaches, parents and triathletes to understand their responsibilities in ensuring that all participants are safe and enjoy the training sessions provided.

All coaches are DBS (previously CRB) checked and cleared.

**Responding to disclosure, suspicions or allegations**

All coaches, committee members and parents should be aware of the clubs contact procedures should the need to report or raise a safeguarding concern arise;   Any person with information of a disclosure, allegation or suspicion about the welfare of a child, be it poor practice or possible abuse, should report this immediately and as appropriate either to:

**The Club Welfare Officer – Paul Cash**. (paul\_cash@talk21.com) The club Welfare officer will liaise directly with the British Triathlon Child protection officers as outlined in their policy.

**or**

**The Club Head Coaches – Caroline & Justin Hattee**  Tel 07711630866

**or**

**British Triathlon’s Lead Child Protection Officer, Rob Bishop**, 07739 526 562 0r 01509 226 161.

**External contacts**:-

* NSPCC 0808 800 5000
* NPSCC Textphone service 0808 100 1033
* British Triathlon Lead Child Protection Officer, Rob Bishop,  07739 526 562 or 01509 226 161
* Childline 0800 1111
* Childline Textphone service 0800 400 222

In addition, you can contact the Leicestershire **Police HQ** on Leicester (0116) 2222222, or alternatively contact **Social Services** on Leicester (0116) 3050000 **Rutland Social Services, Children and Families Team Social Care Duty Worker** on (01572) 722 577 ext 8407

If you require further advice please see the attached guide for parents and also guide for children.

**Download the parents guide to Safeguarding and protecting your child -**[Parents Guide](http://leicestertriathlonclub.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2011/11/S4.-Parents-Guide.pdf) <http://leicestertriathlonclub.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2011/11/S4.-Parents-Guide.pdf>