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**Peninsula Canoe Club safeguarding children in changing rooms policy**

Peninsula Canoe Club has a duty of care to safeguard children. The Club has a responsibility for the wellbeing of children whilst participating in club activities.

The aim of this policy is to prevent sexual assault and the taking of indecent images in the Calday Swimming Pool changing rooms used by Peninsula Canoe Club members whilst participating in club activities.

All members should understand the individually harmful and legal consequences of such events happening. Such events will not be tolerated in any form.

Calday Swimming Pool consists of separate gender changing rooms without separate cubicles.

Parents/carers of any children under 14 are required to stay on the premises whilst their child is taking part in club activities. This will be communicated when course bookings are taken. They are responsible for their child/ward whilst changing and until they are passed to care of the coach in charge. They should be made aware that access to the changing rooms is not monitored.

To safeguard children 14 years and older, adult club members must ensure that they are never alone in a changing room with a child who is not their own; at least two adults should be present. The club has access to the disabled changing facilities if required.

Whilst on the poolside or in the pool participating in a club activity, a child remains under the responsibility and duty of care of the person coaching the activity. If a child leaves the poolside, they should inform the coach before leaving. A coach should request another adult, with a DBS, to check on a child who does not return within a reasonable time.

Mobile phones and devices should not be used under any circumstances in changing rooms. All use of mobile devices in changing rooms must be reported to the Club Welfare Officer and lifeguard on duty. The Welfare Officer should decide if the matter needs to be referred to the PaddleUK safeguarding team or the police, and the venue informed.

Any complaint received about a potential safeguarding incident in a changing room will be investigated by the Welfare Officer and reported to the committee and pool management.

Date: 17.6.25

Review: 17.6.27