



Redgate Sports: Online Safety and Social Media Policy

Note: the terms 'child' or 'children' apply to anyone under the age of 18 the term 'parent' applies to anyone with guardianship or caring and parental responsibility for the child the term 'staff' applies to members of the Redgate Team (staff and volunteers).

Our Online Safety Statement

We recognise that keeping children safe in sport and physical activity extends beyond the game or changing rooms to include digital devices, online platforms and communication. This policy provides guidance on how Redgate Sports approaches the use of the internet and all online platforms while providing a safe and fun environment for children.

This includes, but is not limited to:

- our website
- social media
- live streaming platforms
- sport management apps
- messaging apps

As an organisation, we commit to implementing this policy and addressing any concerns quickly and within these guidelines.

Aims

The aims of our online safety policy are:

- to protect all children involved with our organisation and who make use of technology (such as mobiles phones, games consoles and the internet) while in our care
- to provide staff with policy and procedure information regarding online safety and inform them how to respond to incidents to ensure our organisation is operating in line with our values and within the law regarding how we behave online
- to ensure our organisation is operating in line with our values and within relevant legislation, including the Data Protection Act 2018, UK General Data Protection Regulation and Online Safety Act 2023

Our Policy

As part of our online safety policy, we will:

- conduct risk assessments for all digital and online platforms being considered or being used by the organisation
- ensure that we adhere to relevant legislation and good practice guidelines when using online platforms
- provide relevant training to all staff on online safety, and ensure all staff or volunteers using online platforms have had training appropriate to their role
- monitor how staff, parents and children use our platforms both inside and outside of our setting to ensure it adheres to our policy, acceptable use statement and code of conducts
- regularly review existing safeguarding policies and procedures to ensure online safety is embedded throughout the organisation
- ensure at least two members of staff have access to our digital platforms and moderate them regularly
- ensure staff who moderate and use our digital platforms have appropriate safeguarding training and work closely with the safeguarding lead
- keep all apps and platform security up to date, use strong passwords and maintain privacy of all users
- effectively use security and privacy tools available on each platform
- have a zero-tolerance policy towards discrimination, hateful communication, cyberbullying, inappropriate, harmful or illegal content
- inform all staff, volunteers, parents, carers and children of who to report any online concerns to, or what to do in the event they see something that worries them online
- adhere to parental consents and permissions when sharing images, videos or live streaming our organisation for promotional or celebrational purposes
- never publish identifying information of children on publicly available online platforms (such as our website and public social media channels)
- develop an online safety agreement for use with staff and volunteers
- ensure personal information gathered while using online platforms are stored securely and in line with our privacy policies

We prefer to play sport and work together rather than be on our phones. So, as a general rule we discourage the use of mobile devices.

- Coaches should not use their phones during sessions
- Coaches should use a watch rather than their phone to keep time
- We encourage children to put their phones away – although we do recognise that the children we work tend to experience dysregulation and banning a mobile could be anxiety inducing. In addition time on a mobile can be calming.

Redgate Sports is a sports/coaching organisation – mobile phones, the internet, recording devices are all useful to support learning, show examples and to record progress.

Redgate Sports supports the use of mobile devices to support teaching and learning, provided that staff:

- Gain permission from the referring partner before using a video supported device to film a child for the purpose of instruction
- Do not delete any photographs or videos taken
- Do not share any photographs or videos, post them online, or show them to others – they are only for the purpose of immediate feedback
- Instruct a child on how to find an online video on the child's own device if there is a need to show a sporting activity from the internet
- Use a Redgate Sports device where it is necessary to film and child and store/use that footage (eg. for portfolio development)

What We Expect of Staff and Volunteers

- Staff and volunteers will be aware of this online safety policy and agree to its terms.
- We expect staff and volunteers' online behaviour to be consistent with the guidelines set out in our acceptable use statement.

What We Expect of Children

- Children should be aware of this online safety policy and agree to its terms.
- We expect children's behaviour online to be consistent with the guidelines set out in our acceptable use statement.
- Children should follow the guidelines set out in our acceptable use statement on all digital devices, including smart phones, tablets and consoles.

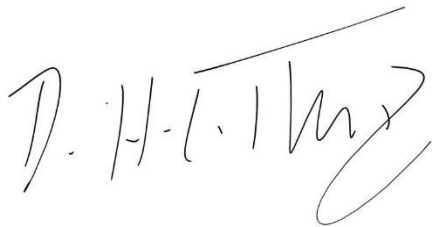
What we Expect of Parents

- Parents should be aware of this online safety policy and agree to its terms.

- Parents should protect all children's privacy online and think carefully about what content they share about our sport online, where they share it and who they're sharing it with.
- We expect parents' behaviour online to be consistent with the guidelines set out in our acceptable use statement.

The policy and procedures will be widely promoted and are mandatory for everyone involved in Redgate Sports. Failure to comply with the policy and procedures will be addressed without delay and may ultimately result in dismissal or exclusion from the organisation and, where appropriate, referral to statutory organisations.

This policy is recommended for approval by:



Dan Thorp

Redgate Sports CEO and Welfare Officer

Date: 04/08/25

POLICY REVIEW:

Redgate Sports review all policies every August. Policies may be reviewed and amended more frequently if the need arises. Changes in legislation and guidance or learning from incidents/near miss event may require a review and change to take place.

Policy/ Procedure	Date Last Reviewed	Amendments Made	Date Next Review	Amended By
Online Safety	06.08.23	Addition of Review Procedure	06.08.24	DT
	01.08.24		01.08.25	DT
	04.08.25	Updated to reflect latest CPSU advice	04.08.26	SK

This policy is circulated to all staff annually. The policy is also circulated to all referring partners.

Redgate Sports holds staff training every 6 months and aspects of this policy are included in every training session.

This Policy has been developed by the Redgate Sports team and approved by the Board.