



PRESTONS NETBALL CLUB

Child Safe Policy

Purpose

All children at **Prestons Netball Club** have a right to feel safe, protected, respected and included. This Child Safe Policy demonstrates Prestons Netball Club's ongoing commitment to protecting the children and young people in our care from harm and abuse. This policy:

- outlines the child safe practices the Club has in place to minimise risks to children's safety
- clearly sets out what is expected of committee members, coaches, volunteers, officials, parents, carers and any other adults who interact with children through the Club.

Our commitment to child safety

Prestons Netball Club is committed to the safety and wellbeing of every child and young person involved in our Club. We have zero tolerance for child abuse or harm and are committed to acting in children's best interests at all times. Our Club provides inclusive and welcoming netball activities that support the participation of all children, including children with diverse backgrounds, abilities, cultures and needs.

Our Statement of Commitment to Child Safety is publicly available on our website: <https://www.prestonsnetball.nsw.communitynetball.com.au>

Scope and audience for this policy

This policy applies to all people involved in Prestons Netball Club, including but not limited to:

- committee and executive members
- coaches and assistant coaches
- umpires and officials
- volunteers
- contractors and service providers
- parents, carers and spectators.

This policy applies to all Club activities, events, training sessions, competitions, meetings, online environments and any other situations where children are involved in Club-related activities.

Responsibilities for children's safety

Everyone involved with Prestons Netball Club is responsible for contributing to a child safe environment.

All committee members, coaches, volunteers and officials must:

- uphold the Club's commitment to child safety and wellbeing
- read, sign and comply with the Child Safe Code of Conduct
- comply with all child safe policies and procedures, including child safe recruitment and risk management processes
- participate in required child safe training and inductions
- report any concerns, disclosures, allegations or breaches of child safety policies
- meet all external reporting obligations under NSW legislation.

Child Safety Contact

The Club will appoint a **Member Protection Officer / Child Safety Officer** who is the primary contact for child safety concerns, complaints or questions. Contact details for this role are published on the Club website and provided at registration and induction.

Active participation of children, families and communities

Prestons Netball Club is committed to actively involving children, families and the community in promoting child safety.

We ensure that:

- child safe policies and procedures are accessible on our website and available in other formats on request
- children, parents and carers are encouraged to provide feedback on what helps them feel safe, supported and included
- children are supported to speak up if they feel unsafe or worried
- the diverse needs, backgrounds and circumstances of children and families are respected and valued.
- We provide opportunities for children to provide feedback to our management, board or committee on what makes them feel safe, supported and included.

Definitions of harm and abuse

Psychological abuse

Includes bullying, intimidation, threats, verbal abuse, humiliation, name-calling, isolation, and exposing a child to domestic or family violence.

Physical abuse

Includes physical punishment or actions such as pushing, hitting, shaking, kicking, choking or causing injuries such as bruises or burns.

Sexual abuse

Includes sexual touching, grooming behaviours, sexual exploitation and the production, possession or distribution of child abuse material.

Grooming

A process where a person builds a relationship with a child (and sometimes their family) to gain trust for the purpose of sexual abuse or exploitation.

Misconduct

Inappropriate behaviour that may not meet the definition of abuse but breaches professional boundaries or the Child Safe Code of Conduct.

Lack of appropriate care

Failure to provide adequate supervision, medical attention, protection or basic care.

What this policy covers

This policy applies to all interactions between adults and children within Prestons Netball Club, including but not limited to:

Supervision of children

Children must be appropriately supervised at all times during Club activities.

Transporting children

Best practice is to have two adults present when transporting children. Where this is not possible, parental consent must be obtained. Children must sit in the back seat and all children must be accounted for at the end of travel.

Social media use and online communication

Adults must not communicate privately with children via social media, text or online platforms. Any necessary communication must include a parent or carer.

Photography and use of images

Photos and videos of children may only be taken with parent or carer consent and used in line with Club policies. Personal devices must not be used to photograph children other than one's own.

Physical contact

Physical contact must be appropriate, respectful, and limited to what is necessary for coaching or safety.

Gifts and benefits

Gifts or special treatment must not be given to children without parental approval.

Secondary employment and babysitting

Staff and volunteers must disclose any secondary employment involving children. Babysitting children involved in the Club is not permitted unless there is a pre-existing relationship and the Club is informed.

Out-of-hours contact

Contact with children outside Club activities must have a legitimate reason and appropriate boundaries must be maintained.

Illness and injury management

All injuries must be reported to the designated first aid officer and managed in a visible, safe environment.

Reporting requirements

Prestons Netball Club has a **Child Safe Reporting Policy** that outlines procedures for:

- raising concerns or complaints
- responding to disclosures or allegations
- meeting external reporting obligations.

This policy is available on the Club website.

If a child is in immediate danger, emergency services must be contacted immediately.

Other related child safe documents

Prestons Netball Club maintains a suite of child safe documents, including:

- Statement of Commitment to Child Safety
- Child Safe Code of Conduct
- Child Safe Recruitment, Induction and Training Policy
- Child Safe Risk Management Plan

These documents are available on our website and upon request.

Publication, communication and engagement

This Child Safe Policy is:

- published on the Club website
- provided to families at registration
- shared with volunteers and officials during induction
- reviewed regularly with opportunities for feedback from our community.

Related legislation, regulations and standards

Prestons Netball Club complies with all relevant NSW child protection legislation, including:

- NSW Child Safe Scheme
- Children's Guardian Act 2019
- Child Protection (Working with Children) Act 2012
- Child Protection (Working with Children) Regulation 2013
- Children and Young Persons (Care and Protection) Act 1998

Next review date

This policy will be reviewed by the Prestons Netball Club Committee by:

30th December, 2026

or earlier if required due to legislative change or a critical incident.

Approved by the Prestons Netball Club Committee