

CLTC and HCC Use of Changing Rooms Policy

CLTC and HCC strive to ensure that all children are safeguarded from abuse and have an enjoyable sporting experience whilst at the Club.

In the context of Schedule 1 (para 16) of the Children Act 1989, a child is defined as anyone aged under 18. For the purposes of this policy, whilst CLTC/HCC would prefer all persons aged under 18 not to use its changing facilities unaccompanied, it accepts that parents may be content for their children aged 16 and 17 to change in the facilities unaccompanied. In such instances, since this policy is being communicated through all possible channels to reach all users, there will be a presumption of implicit parental authority for them to do so. Such young persons may not, however, use the showers or sauna (see clause 3 below) at any time.

This policy applies to all staff, coaches, volunteers, players, parents, carers and any other individuals associated with CLTC and HCC.

This document sets out the CLTC and HCC policy for the acceptable use of our changing rooms.

1. **CHILDREN USING THE CHANGING ROOMS MUST BE ACCOMPANIED BY A PARENT OR GUARDIAN AT ALL TIMES.** These facilities are for both children and adults. Children being accompanied reduces the risks and potential vulnerabilities associated with mixing adults and children in changing facilities.
2. Children not accompanied by a parent or guardian must use the individual gender-neutral toilet cubicles for all washroom and changing room purposes.
3. Children may not shower or use the sauna even when accompanied by a parent or guardian. This applies to all children aged under 18, regardless of parental authority.
4. Adults looking to change or shower in the facilities when children are present should speak to the parent or guardian accompanying the children and request that they use the gender-neutral toilet cubicles instead. Likewise, parents or guardians who enter the changing rooms with their children and find adults already using the facilities should use the gender-neutral toilet cubicles instead.
5. Adults looking to change or shower in the facilities who find unaccompanied children present should politely ask them to leave. Any such instances should be reported to the Club at the earliest opportunity. Staff will then look to identify the children in question and speak to their parents to advise them of the changing room policy. Adults and children should always behave responsibly.
6. Groups of children looking to use the changing rooms (e.g. groups of school children) must be accompanied at all times by an adult acting in loco parentis (e.g. a school teacher). Mixed gender groups of children will use separate changing rooms. Such groups will be accompanied by an adult acting in loco parentis of the same gender. All considerations as above continue to apply.
7. If we are made aware that a child or adult self-identifies as a gender that differs from the gender they were assigned at birth, we will work with them and their parents/carers (where it relates to a child) to make reasonable adjustments to changing arrangements to suit their needs.
8. The use of mobile phones and other electronic devices in the changing rooms is strictly prohibited at all times.
9. Where no changing facilities are available and when it is reasonably practical to do so, children, parents and travelling teams/players will be made aware prior to their attendance and advised to make alternative arrangements for changing.

