**TASC Safeguarding Policy**

Torridgeside Swimming Club acknowledges the duty of care to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and is committed to ensuring safeguarding practice reflects statutory responsibilities, government guidance and complies with best practice and Swim England requirements.

This policy recognises that the welfare and interests of children are paramount in all circumstances. It aims to ensure that regardless of age, ability or disability, gender reassignment, race, religion or belief, sex or sexual orientation, socio-economic background, all children

* have a positive and enjoyable experience of swimming with Torridgeside Swimming Club in a safe and child centred environment
* are protected from abuse whilst participating in training or competing with Torridgeside Swimming Club or outside of the activity.

Torridgeside Swimming Club 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 Torridgeside Swimming Club will**

* Promote and prioritise the safety and wellbeing of children and young people.
* Build relationships with our swimmers based on mutual trust which empowers them succeed and to share in the decision-making process.
* 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 all parents and children sign the relevant Code of Conduct in the Membership Pack, and understand the clauses within.
* Ensure all parents and children sign to confirm their understanding of our Safeguarding Policy.
* 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

 *Wave Power 20-23 Safeguarding Section 3*

**Changing Rooms**

* Wherever possible same sex changing rooms will be used except in competitions at different swimming venues where mixed changing villages could be in place.
* Changing facilities at training and competition venues may be shared by other members of the public/other club swimmers.
* Under our duty of care to safeguard children the club has a responsibility to safeguard children in changing rooms.
* Where ever possible barriers should be used or signage to inform the public of the use of the changing room by the Club.
* The general public wherever possible will not be permitted into the changing rooms.
* Parents should not be alone in the changing room with other swimmers unless their child is of an age where assistance is needed.
* Mobile phones are to be kept switched off and in bags at all times in the changing rooms.
* These procedures will be widely promoted and are mandatory for everyone involved in Torridgeside Swimming Club. Failure to comply will be addressed without delay and may ultimately result in dismissal/exclusion from the Club.

 *Wave Power 20-23 Guidance for changing rooms/Section 3*

**Behaviour**

* All swimmers, coaches, parents and volunteers will behave with respect and dignity to others.
* All behaviour should promote honesty, teamwork and a positive sporting environment.
* All forms of bullying will be acted upon : physical, mental, racial, sexual, internet.
* Everyone in our club has a responsibility to behave in a way that promotes safety.
* No mobile phones will be switched on in the changing rooms.
* No sharing of phones or swapping sensitive information

 *Wave Power 20-23 Social Networking/Section 3*

**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 Swim England
* As a result of any other significant change or event.

**November 2020**

**To be reviewed…………………..….. November 2021……………………….. by the TASC committee**