Eccleston Equestrian Centre

Anti-bullying policy

More advice is available www.bhs.org.uk/safeguardingchildren

This policy should be reviewed and updated annually.

Name of organisation/club:	**Eccleston Equestrian Centre**
This policy was last reviewed on:	26.10.2026
Date of next review:	26.10.2027
Named Safeguarding Officer:	Karen Norris
Contact information:	Karen@equestrian-northwest.co.uk

The Organisation or Club will:-

- Recognise its duty of care and responsibility to safeguard all participants from harm.
- Promote and implement this anti-bullying policy.
- Seek to ensure that bullying behaviour is not accepted or condoned.
- Require all members of the organisation/club to be given information about, and sign up to, this policy.
- Take action to investigate and respond to any alleged incidents of bullying.
- Encourage and facilitate children and young people to play an active part in developing and adopting a code of conduct to address bullying.
- Ensure that coaches are given access to information, guidance and/or training on bullying.

Each Participant, Coach, Volunteer or Official will:-

- Respect every child's need for, and rights to, a play environment where safety, security, praise, recognition and opportunity for taking responsibility are available.
- Respect the feelings and views of others.
- Recognise that everyone is important and that our differences make each of us special and should be valued.
- Show appreciation of others by acknowledging individual qualities, contributions and progress.
- Be committed to the early identification of bullying, and prompt and collective action to deal with it.
- Ensure safety by having rules and practices carefully explained and displayed for all to see.
- Report incidents of bullying they see – by doing nothing you are condoning bullying.

Bullying

- All forms of bullying will be addressed.
- Everybody in the organisation/club has a responsibility to work together to stop bullying.
- Bullying can include online as well as offline behaviour.
- Bullying can include:-
  - physical pushing, kicking, hitting, pinching etc.
  - name calling, sarcasm, spreading rumours, persistent teasing and emotional torment through ridicule, humiliation or the continual ignoring of individuals.
  - posting of derogatory or abusive comments, videos or images on social network sites.
  - racial taunts, graffiti, gestures, sectarianism.
  - sexual comments, suggestions or behaviour.
  - unwanted physical contact.
- Children with a disability, from ethnic minorities, young people who are gay or lesbian, or those with learning difficulties are more vulnerable to this form of abuse and are more likely to be targeted.

Support to the Child

- Children should know who will listen to and support them.
- Systems should be established to open the door to children wishing to talk about bullying or any other issue that affects them.
- Potential barriers to talking (including those associated with a child's disability or impairment) need to be identified and addressed at the outset to enable children to approach adults for help.
- Children should have access to Helpline numbers.
- Anyone who reports an incident of bullying will be listened to carefully and be supported.
- Any reported incident of bullying will be investigated objectively and will involve listening carefully to all those involved.
- Children being bullied will be supported and assistance given to uphold their right to play and live in a safe environment which allows their healthy development.
- Those who bully will be supported and encouraged to stop bullying.
- Sanctions for those bullying others that involves long periods of isolation, or which diminish and make individuals look or feel foolish in front of others, will be avoided.

Support to the Parents/Guardians

- Parents/guardians should be advised on the organisation/club's bullying policy and practice.
- Any incident of bullying will be discussed with the child's parent(s)/guardians.
- Parents will be consulted on action to be taken (for both victim and bully) and agreements made as to what action should be taken.
- Information and advice on coping with bullying will be made available.
- Support should be offered to the parent(s) including information on other agencies or support lines.

Useful Contacts

NSPCC Helpline, Tel: 0808 800 5000

CPSU (Child Protection in Sport Unit) www.thecpsu.org.uk

ChildLine 0800 1111 / www.childline.org.uk

Kidscape www.kidscape.org.uk

Anti-Bullying Alliance www.antibullyingalliance.org

BEF Safeguarding Officer, Tel: 02476 69887

Information taken from the Child Protection in Sport Unit website.