

Enjoy Water **Safely**



Grantham Life Saving Club

Charter

01/04/2026



Person(s) responsible for updating the policy:	Gary Hewerdine,
Date Approved	01/04/2026
Date of next review	31/03/2027
Status	Approved

Grantham Life Saving Club Responsibilities

Safeguarding Statement

1. Introduction

Grantham Life Saving Club (hereinafter “the Club”) is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of all children and young people who participate in our activities. This commitment applies to every member of our community, including staff, volunteers, coaches, parents, carers, and visitors.

2. Our Commitment to Safeguarding

The Club recognises its moral and legal duty to ensure that all children and young people are protected from harm. We strive to create a safe, inclusive, and welcoming environment where every child is respected, valued, and supported to reach their full potential.

3. Responsibilities of Staff and Volunteers

All staff and volunteers share responsibility for safeguarding. They are expected to:

- Remain vigilant to signs of abuse, neglect, or harm.
- Follow the Club’s safeguarding policies and procedures.
- Act promptly and appropriately when concerns arise.
- Prioritise the safety and wellbeing of children at all times.

4. Child-Centred Approach

Our safeguarding practice is firmly child-centred. Decisions and actions will always consider the best interests, rights, and needs of the child. We work in partnership with parents, carers, and relevant agencies to ensure coordinated and effective support.

5. Duty of Care

The Club accepts its duty of care for all children and young people while they are participating in any Club-related training, sessions, or activities. We will take all reasonable steps to ensure their safety, wellbeing, and protection.

6. Shared Responsibility

Safeguarding is everyone’s responsibility. All members of the Club community are expected to uphold our safeguarding values, promote safe practice, and contribute to an environment where children feel secure and supported.

Parent/Carer Code of Conduct

Parents and carers are essential partners in creating a safe, respectful, and positive environment for all children and young people at Grantham Life Saving Club. By joining the Club, parents and carers agree to uphold the following standards of behaviour:

1. Commitment to Safety and Welfare

- Prioritise the safety, wellbeing, and dignity of all children and young people involved in Club activities.
- Support the Club's safeguarding policies and follow all guidance provided by staff and volunteers.

2 Parental Presence at the Meres Leisure Centre

- Parents and carers of **Rookie members (training session from 19:30 to 20:15)** must remain on site at the Meres Leisure Centre for the full duration of their child's training session, unless the Club has explicitly agreed to alternative arrangements in advance.
- This requirement ensures that children have immediate access to their parent/carer should they need support, and that safeguarding responsibilities are upheld at all times.
- Parents and carers are expected to ensure that their child is adequately supervised at all times whilst using the changing facilities. Older club members who attend independently should approach a member of Club staff if they have any questions or concerns while using the changing rooms.
- Ensure their child arrives on time, prepared and ready to participate.
- Collect their child promptly at the end of each session.
- Supervise younger siblings or accompanying children to ensure they do not disrupt activities or pose safety risks.

3. Respectful Behaviour

- Treat all children, staff, volunteers, officials and other parents with courtesy, respect, and fairness.
- Use positive and encouraging language at all times.
- Refrain from shouting, swearing, or using aggressive, intimidating, or discriminatory behaviour.

4. Supporting Coaches and Volunteers

- Respect the professional judgement and instructions of coaches, lifeguards, and volunteers.
- Avoid interfering with training sessions or attempting to coach from the sidelines.
- Raise concerns or questions at appropriate times and through appropriate channels.

5. Communication and Cooperation

- Communicate openly, honestly, and respectfully with Club staff and volunteers.
- Provide accurate and up-to-date information regarding their child's medical needs, additional needs, or any circumstances that may affect participation.
- Inform the Club promptly of any changes to emergency contact details.

6. Positive Role Modelling

- Encourage their child to enjoy participation, develop skills, and show respect for others.
- Celebrate effort, improvement and teamwork as well as achievement.
- Avoid placing undue pressure or unrealistic expectations on their child.

7. Reporting Concerns

- Report any safeguarding concerns, incidents, or inappropriate behaviour to the Club staff
- Support the Club in taking appropriate action when concerns are raised.
- Maintain confidentiality and avoid discussing sensitive matters publicly or on social media.

8. Upholding Club Values

- Promote an atmosphere of inclusion, kindness, and respect for all.
- Support the Club's commitment to equal opportunities and anti-discriminatory practice.
- Contribute to a positive and welcoming environment for every member.