

ECB Guidelines on Working With External Partners

Some cricket clubs work with local schools, community colleges, local authority sports development teams or other organisations to provide cricket coaching, or facilities, to the wider community. Some programmes of this kind are organised on a formal basis through the ECB, whereas others can be organised by clubs, or even by individual coaches.

If clubs are looking to work, or are currently working with external partners in this way, it is important that clubs identify the responsibilities, and expectations, of each organisation in relation to safeguarding and supervision of children, including the need to ensure appropriate insurance cover exists.

In order for the club to be able to demonstrate its duty of care, the Club Welfare Officer must ensure the Club Committee has considered all its obligations and duties before undertaking any partnership working of this kind.

More guidance on this subject and important factors for clubs to consider, are contained in this section of the Kit Bag.

For ECB organised programmes

Programmes such as 'Chance to Shine' have already published protocols and specific guidance on working with children within the programme's guidance notes.

Additionally, school sport has its own reporting structure for concerns. This structure supersedes the ECB standard reporting structure for incidents connected to school sport.

The Club Welfare Officer must ensure the Club Committee has considered all its obligations and duties before undertaking the partnership or entering the programme.

For other programmes (i.e. those organised directly by clubs which are not part of an ECB programme)

Many clubs and coaches have informal arrangements with local schools whereby they go into schools on an ad-hoc basis, for the benefit of the school and the club.

When planning and undertaking this kind of activity, it is strongly recommended that coaches and their clubs consider:

- Qualifications
- Insurance
- Risk assessments including first aid procedures
- Avoidance of adults being alone with children
- Supervision of children undertaken by appropriately vetted adults and with correct supervisory ratios
- Changing
- Transport to any games or facilities
- Photographs/press coverage

The ECB Community Coach Education department has produced further guidance on working in schools.