

Good Practice when working with young people means:

- always working in an open environment (e.g. avoiding private or unobserved situations and encouraging an open environment (e.g. no secrets)
- treating all young people equally, and with respect and dignity
- always putting the welfare of each young person first, before winning or achieving goals
- maintaining a safe and appropriate distance with performers (e.g. it is not appropriate to have an intimate relationship with a child or to share a room with them)
- building balanced relationships based on mutual trust which empowers children to share in the decision-making process
- making sport fun, enjoyable and promoting fair play
- ensuring that if any form of manual/physical support is required, it should be provided openly and according to guidelines provided by the NGB. Care is needed as it is difficult to maintain hand positions when the child is constantly moving. Young people should always be consulted, and their agreement gained. Some parents are becoming increasingly sensitive about manual support and their views should always be carefully considered
- keeping up to date with the technical skills, qualifications and insurance in sport involving parents/carers wherever possible (e.g. for the responsibility of their own children in the changing rooms). If groups must be supervised in the changing rooms, always ensure parents/teachers/coaches/officials work in pairs
- ensuring that if mixed teams are taken away, they should always be accompanied by a male and female member of staff. (NB However, same gender abuse can also occur.)
- ensuring that at tournaments or residentials, adults should not enter children's rooms or invite children into their rooms being an excellent role model – this includes not smoking or drinking alcohol or swearing in the company of young people
- giving enthusiastic and constructive feedback rather than negative criticism recognizing the developmental needs and capacity of young people – avoiding excessive training or competition and not pushing them against their will
- securing parental consent in writing to acting in loco parentis, if the need arises to give permission for the administration of emergency first aid and/or other medical treatment awareness of any medicines being taken by participants, or existing injuries
- keeping a written record of any injury that occurs, along with the details of any treatment given
- requesting written parental consent if club officials are required to transport young people in their cars