

**December 2021**

**THE CONNAUGHT CLUB**

**Changing Room Policy**

The Connaught Club strives to ensure that all children (under 18 years old) are safeguarded from abuse and have an enjoyable sporting experience. This document sets out the Club's policy for the acceptable use of its changing rooms by all members, staff, coaches, volunteers and visitors. This reduces any risks and potential vulnerability associated with mixing adults and children when changing and showering.

1. Parents/carers are advised to bring their child to the Club ready changed for play and to take them home to shower and change after play, where it is feasible to do so.
2. Where it is unavoidable that changing rooms are used by both adults and children at the same time, there will be access to separate changing, showering and toilet areas.
3. Under no circumstances will staff, coaches or volunteers change or shower at the same time as children using the changing rooms.
4. Mixed gender groups of children will have access to separate changing rooms.
5. If we are made aware that a child or adult self-identifies as a gender that differs from the gender they were assigned at birth, we will work with them and their parents/carers (where it relates to a child) to make reasonable adjustments to changing arrangements to suit their needs.
6. Mobile phones and other electronic devices must not be used in changing rooms.
7. For younger groups of children, a DBS checked member of staff or volunteer will wait outside the changing rooms to allow children to call for assistance if required.
8. Where no changing facilities are available children, parents and travelling teams/players will be made aware prior to the game and advised to make alternative arrangements and to take appropriate additional clothing e.g., tracksuits etc.
9. Groups of children requiring changing facilities will have sole use of changing rooms, but this must be organised in advance. This reduces any risks and potential vulnerability associated with mixing adults and children when changing and showering.