

# Changing rooms and showering facilities

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**Parents/carers, coaches, team managers and volunteers should be aware that there are circumstances where junior players may find themselves changing in facilities where adults are present in the area.**

Cricket is unusual in that children play, compete, practice, train and socialise amongst adults. We all have a duty of care to ensure risks are minimised by implementing the following procedures.

While groups of children are using changing facilities, coaches and other volunteers must not enter unless absolutely necessary. Remember the **'Rule of Two'**, giving particular consideration to the gender of those using the facilities when deciding who the most appropriate adults are to enter. Such access should be announced verbally before entering. Signage should be used to indicate when the changing room is in use by children.

- Children should be encouraged to arrive and leave in their playing kit and are not required to change/shower at the ground
- Where possible, separate facilities should be available for children to change/shower in a different location to adults
- It is recognised that some 16 and 17 year olds may wish to change/shower alongside their adult team mates in communal changing rooms. **Such a situation should be agreed in advance with the Club Safeguarding Officer, the child and the parent/carer** – it is essential that no pressure is applied for a child to make any particular choice
- Mixed gender teams must always have separate and clearly signed changing facilities. If this is not possible, players should have a specific time allocated to using the changing facilities, based on their gender, and this should be strictly adhered to
- Mobile phones or any other equipment capable of capturing still or moving images should not be used in the changing room when people are changing
- It is important to note that the taking of images of adults and children in a public place without consent is often unwelcomed. "Targeted" taking of images without an individual's consent or where an individual has a reasonable expectation of privacy (such as a changing facility) could constitute a criminal offence. Any individual taking an indecent image of a child commits a child sexual offence
- Clubs should make their changing and showering procedures visible to all.

## Transgender and Non-Binary Participants

Using gendered changing facilities can be a source of stress for transgender and non-binary participants. Clubs should consider how to support these children to use the changing rooms that they feel comfortable with.

Club policies should reflect that decisions need to be made on a case-by-case basis, taking into consideration all children's welfare.

For further information on how best to support transgender and non-binary children please visit the websites of the below organisations.

- UK Active Transgender Guidance for Leisure Facilities
- Gendered Intelligence Guide for Trans Inclusion in Youth Residential
- Stonewall tips for LGBTQ+ Inclusion