

Safeguarding and Protecting Young People Guidelines

Given their age and established relationships with LTSB staff, it is extremely unlikely that a young person will make a disclosure of a sensitive nature to a volunteer. However, these guidelines still represent best practice for engaging with our young people, and if any issues arise please contact LTSB Deputy CEO & Ops Director [pete.ward@leadershipthroughsport.org](mailto:pete.ward@leadershipthroughsport.org)

**Good practice**

Mentors:

1. should always be publicly open when working with young people
2. should avoid any unobserved situations and encourage open communication
3. must treat all young people equally and with respect and dignity
4. must keep an appropriate distance between yourself and the young person; intimate relationships are not allowed
5. must avoid unnecessary physical contact with young people
6. should be a good role model
7. should give enthusiastic and constructive feedback rather than negative criticism
8. must recognise the developmental needs and capacity of the young person and not risk their wellbeing to gain other successes.

**Poor practice**

Mentors:

1. must not unnecessarily spend time alone with a young person
2. must not reduce a young person to tears as a form of control
3. should not do things of a personal nature that the young person can do for themselves
4. must not engage in rough, highly physical or sexual activity
5. must not make sexually suggestive comments to a young person
6. must not engage in improper touching of any form
7. must not allow young people to openly use unsuitable language, esp. racist, sexist, homophobic
8. must not allow allegations made by a young person to go unchallenged, unrecorded or not acted upon. Please refer to Pete Ward immediately.