

WORKING WITH CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE

Working with Children and Young People can often be a concern for clubs and fisheries. It can create uncertainty on what you can and can't do and may ultimately stop a club or fishery from getting involved. To help overcome this uncertainty and cover any misconceptions, the Angling Trust have provided the below guidance to make it as easy as possible to run events that encourage more young people into fishing but importantly do so in a safe manner for both participants and volunteers.

Make it a family day out

We would strongly recommend that there are no unaccompanied children (under 18's) at your Get Fishing event. Parents/guardians should be made aware that they will be responsible for their child throughout the event. This ensures that parents/guardians buy into the new hobby and returning after an initial taster is much more likely.

Provide advice and guidance to volunteers

Utilise the Angling Trust's Volunteer Agreement Forms to ensure volunteers know exactly what will be expected of them and the roles they will be undertaking on the day. This will ensure that volunteers will be fully comfortable in the roles they will be fulfilling.

Policies & Procedures

A child protection policy highlights exactly how an organisation safeguards children in angling. The Angling Trust have established a template for clubs/ fisheries to use, providing best practice guidelines on the best steps to take to safeguard children and young people. Every organisation should have a child protection policy in place to help them create a safe environment for all young people to participate in angling. This can be downloaded here: <https://www.childreninangling.org/policies/safeguarding-and-protecting-children-policy-template>

DBS Checks

A DBS (Disclosure and Barring Service) check is only applicable if an individual has regular, unsupervised contact with a child (under 18). By running a family fishing event, where children are supervised by a parent or guardian, a DBS check for your volunteers involved is not necessary. Further information on DBS checks and whether you need one can be found at <https://www.childreninangling.org/club-guidance/club-resources>

Familiarise yourself with www.childreninangling.org

There is some really good practical advice and guidance on the Angling Trust's Children in Angling website. Have a good look through it and familiarise yourself with the best practice guidelines, policy templates and guidance available to support your club and young people to help create a safe environment for everyone to participate in angling.

For further information please contact Lead Safeguarding Officer Richard Hadley via richard.hadley@anglingtrust.net

