



(2026) Code of Conduct for Parents/Guardians (Adults)

Parents have a vital role to play in safeguarding cricketers who are aged under 18.

The ECB Philosophy states that Cricket is about providing a fun and safe environment in which people particularly children, can enjoy cricket, gain some success and be motivated to want to go on playing.

The philosophy ties into the ECB's own core values and in particular the 'Enjoyment' value which the ECB has identified as central to the ethos of the 'Safe Hands' Programme.

The guidance is intended for **all Adults** who attend cricket matches or training activities at which there are players aged 18 or below taking part.

- Adults must respect the rights, dignity and worth of each and every person and treat each equally within the context of the sport.
- Adults must not exert undue influence to obtain personal benefit or reward.
- Adults must encourage and guide players to accept responsibility for their own behaviour and performance.
- Adults should, at the outset, clarify with the Team Captains / Managers / Coaches exactly what is expected of them.
- Adults must co-operate fully with other specialists (e.g. coaches, officials, sports scientists, doctors, physiotherapists) in the best interests of the young player.
- Adults must always promote the positive aspects of the sport (e.g Fair Play) and never condone violations of the Laws of the Game, behaviour contrary to the spirit of the Laws of the Game or relevant rules and regulations or the use of prohibited substances or techniques.
- Adults must consistently display high standards of behaviour and appearance.
- Adults must not use or tolerate inappropriate language or behaviour.
- Adults must comply with the ECB "Transporting Children to Cricket Activities Guidance"

- An Adult should never be alone in a changing room, sports hall, on a cricket field or in a motor vehicle alone with a player aged under 18 (unless it is their child).
- Mobile phones should not be used in the changing room or sports hall by under 18's or by adults (unless being used for coaching purposes and only with the authorisation of the under 18's guardian or Parent)

(The above policy has been developed from ' ECB Guidance on Codes of Conduct for Coaches from the Club "Safe Hands" Crickets Policy for Safeguarding Children and The FA Coaches Association Codes of Conduct for football clubs "Child Protection Policy, Procedures and Implementation Guidance for Grassroots Football" which reflects the standards expressed by the National Coaching Foundation and the National Association of Sport Coaches