

## SECTION 5:

# DEFINITIONS

- **Child or young person** - In England, a child is anyone below the age of 18 years. These terms will be used interchangeably throughout this document.
- **Safeguarding** - those processes to ensure that a child remains safe within Volleyball.
- **Child protection** - the processes to respond to concerns about a child.
- **Welfare Officers** - Volleyball England has identified Welfare Officers as key individuals in leading this implementation of these policy and procedures at national, regional and club level.
- **Statutory agencies** - this includes organisations who have a statutory/legal role in responding to concerns about children. They include:
  - Children's Services (also called Children's Social Care or Social Services) who work to protect children from harm
  - Police who address concerns about criminal behaviour.
  - (Local Authority) Designated Officers who address concerns about those in positions of responsibility.
- **Local arrangements** - these used to called "Local Safeguarding Children's Boards" and coordinate local safeguarding arrangements.
- **Legal age of consent** - the age at which people can legally consent to sexual activity (also known as the **age of consent**) is 16-years-old.
- **Child abuse** - in law there are four types of child abuse:
  - Physical abuse is when someone hurts or harms a child or young person on purpose. In volleyball this could include concerns about children physically harmed at home, or an assault in the Volleyball environment. For more information see the **NSPCC website**.
  - Sexual abuse is when a child or young person is forced or tricked into sexual activities. This could be through contact or no contact. In volleyball this could include concerns outside the club, or grooming of a young person by a person in a position of responsibility. For more information see the **NSPCC website**.
  - Emotional abuse is any type of abuse that involves the continual emotional mistreatment of a child. It's sometimes called psychological abuse. In volleyball, this could include abusive language towards young people from a parent, or a coach deliberately trying to scare, humiliate, isolate or ignore a child. For more information see the **NSPCC website**.
  - Neglect is the ongoing failure to meet a child's basic needs and the most common form of child abuse. In volleyball, there could be concerns about malnourishment or cleanliness in a child's home, or young people not being given water during training.