

SUPERVISION GUIDANCE

It is important to ensure that, in planning and running Volleyball for children and young people, consideration is given to providing an appropriate staffing/supervision ratio of adults to participants.

Benefits of clear guidance about supervision include:

- Minimising any risks to participants.
- Enhancing the benefits children draw from the activity.
- Reassuring parents/carers.
- Providing some protection for those responsible for providing, funding or commissioning the activity in the event of concerns or incidents arising.

Those supervising children and young people need to be suitable for this role. Suitability should be established through:

- Ensuring **Safer Recruitment Procedures (see Section 3.1)** have been followed in recruiting them, including a DBS check where relevant.
- Checking that they have an appropriate qualification for the activity.
- Checking that they have appropriate insurance to cover the activity.
- Sign up to the Volleyball England's Codes of Conduct.
- Ensuring appropriate training has been completed.

All work with young people should be within sight or hearing of other adults.



The adult/participant ratios should be based on the age and any additional needs of the young people involved. A minimum of two adults should be present at all times to ensure basic cover in the event of something impacting the availability of one of the adults. Ideally, a male and female adult should be available if the activity involves both male and female young people. NB: Carers of young people with disabilities must not be relied upon as a supervising adult with regard to ratios; they should be present in addition to recommended ratios.

In addition to the minimum two adults, Volleyball England's recommended minimum supervision ratios, are as follows:

- Participants under 8 years old: 1 adult to 8 young people (with a minimum of two adults).
- Participants over 8 years old: 1 adult to 12 young people (with a minimum of two adults).

NB: "Participants" extends to all those who are under 18 years old, whether they are leading, coaching, officiating, volunteering or playing.

Leadership, officiating and volunteer awards create opportunities for young people to develop their skills and sense of responsibility. However, this should not result in these young people being given lead or full responsibility for managing groups of young people.

Parents/carers should have the contact details of a responsible adult involved in the activity and have provided their contact details in the event of an emergency or issue regarding the young person.

Those supervising the activity are responsible for first aid provision and should do so by ensuring:

- There is a qualified first aider on site.
- First aid boxes are accessible and up-to-date.
- There is access to a phone to contact emergency services if required.

When in a position of authority and trust in relation to children and participants aged 16 and 17 years must not engage in sexual relationships with them while an unequal power relationship exists.