Beckington Cricket Club E-Safety Policy

The internet, mobile phones, gaming, social networking and other interactive services offer opportunities to reach, communicate and engage with those involved in cricket. However, as with any environment there are also potential risks. Beckington Cricket Club promotes safe and responsible use of communication and interactive communication technologies within the Club.

Potential Risks

Potential risks may include:

- Bullying by peers and people they consider 'friends'

- Posting personal information that can identify and locate a child offline

- Sexual grooming, luring, exploitation and abuse contact with strangers

- Exposure to inappropriate and/or illegal content

- Involvement in making or distributing illegal or inappropriate content

- Theft of personal information

- Leaving and running away from home as a result of contacts made online

- Exposure to racist or hate material

- Encouragement of violent behaviour

Policy

All club officers, members, appointed volunteers and guests of this club will:

- Take responsibility for their own use of communication and interactive technologies, making sure they use new technologies safely, responsibly and legally within the context of minors at Beckington Cricket Club.

- Not use communication devices or services, including interactive services such as social networking, for inappropriate behaviour online or compromise the safety of minors at Beckington Cricket Club. For the avoidance of doubt this includes bullying or harassment in any form, defamation, obscene or abusive language and the uploading of material which is libellous, defamatory, obscene, illegal, shows nudity or is violent.

- Report any known misuses of communication and/or interactive technologies within the context of minors at Beckington Cricket Club, including unacceptable behaviour, inappropriate contact with children online and illegal content, including sexual abuse/indecent images of children and/or adults, according to the relevant club and ECB safeguarding policies and procedures.

- Need to be aware that any report of the misuse of communication and/or interactive technologies within the context of minors at Beckington Cricket Club will be investigated according to the club's policy and procedures and may result in sanctions being enforced. Depending upon the seriousness of any incident, legal action may be taken, and where suspected criminal activity has taken place a report will be made to the police.

In addition, and in respect of minors at Beckington Cricket Club, officers and appointed volunteers will:

- Take responsibility for their personal and professional reputation in the online environment, making sure they follow e-safety advice, adhere to privacy and safety settings and report any concerns in accordance with club and ECB policies and procedures.

- NOT ask for email addresses, mobile phone numbers or social networking profiles of minors or search for minors on social networking services/search engines without prior consent of parents in line with the club's existing policy on the use of information including emergency situations.

- NOT develop an online relationship with any minors with the intention of meeting them offline to engage in sexual activity. Sexual exploitation, including grooming a child under the age of 16 for the purpose of meeting to engage in sexual activity, is a serious criminal offence.

- NOT view, possess, make or distribute sexual abuse/indecent images of minors. This is a serious criminal offence.

Further Resources

http://www.childnet.com/safety/

Childnet's website gives general safety advice for parents, young people and teachers as well as more specific advice on key issues in various fact sheets.

thinkuknow (www.thinkuknow.co.uk)

The Child Exploitation and Online Protection Centre provides a guide to the technologies and education and awareness resources aimed at parents, children and young people and professionals.