



## **Parents/Guardians/Carers Code of Conduct**

*'Making Cricket the Sport of Choice in Oxfordshire'*

At Oxfordshire Cricket Board (OCB), it is our mission to make cricket the sport of choice for all. We endeavour to ensure **all** participation in cricket is safe and welcoming and as part of our collective duty to safeguard children, young people and adults at risk, it is important that we work in **partnership** within the cricket community.

OCB comply fully with the ECB Safe Hands Policy – this is the England and Wales's Cricket Board's policy to safeguarding within cricket. It promotes good practice, helps raise awareness and ensures people know what to do if they have any concerns about the safeguarding of children, young people or vulnerable adults in cricket.

*'Cricket is a game which unites communities and improves lives. Across England and Wales, the enjoyment, structure, fitness, and friendship which cricket brings to children is of immense value to them in their formative years. The safety of all those participating in cricket, especially children and young people is our paramount concern.'*

*Everyone involved in cricket, as a player, coach, official, administrator, staff member, volunteer, spectator, parent, or carer has a role to play. Individually and collectively, it is our actions, both on and off the field which can help in creating a **safe** and **inclusive** culture.'*

### ***If relevant:***

The OCB Pathway is a talent development programme that provides a development journey for girls and boys between the ages of nine and eighteen. The OCB pathway is for individuals aspiring to play representative cricket within intra-county, or county age group formats and is designed to provide appropriate and progressive transitions between ages and stages of development. The primary aim of the OCB pathway is to develop a constant stream of players that can populate recreational and professional cricket, achieved by prioritising the long-term development of players guided by the programmes principles;

- To ensure opportunities for talent to be identified, developed, confirmed and selected.
- To deliver environments, coaching provision and support that maximises potential and performance over time.
- To provide experiences that foster a life-long enjoyment and connection with the game of cricket.

Participation within OCB activity as player, parent, guardian or carer implies acceptance to abide by the policies, rules and regulations of the OCB and any that may be introduced from time to time. This code applies to all activities run by the OCB .

Any matters regarding this code should be addressed to Vicki Selby, Safeguarding Manager, [safeguarding@oxoncb.com](mailto:safeguarding@oxoncb.com)

Parents/Guardians/Carers agree to:

1. Support the players without pressure, praise hard work and refrain from criticising lapses.
2. Foster an enjoyment of the game that will endure no matter what level they play at.
3. Set a good example to the player and create a positive environment for everyone involved.
4. Communicate with the OCB staff, keeping them informed about matters affecting the player.
5. Where possible, let your child carry their own cricket kit and take responsibility for themselves on match days and training
6. Sit away from players during training and observe play away from the boundary line and/or from the designated areas.
7. Not enter the field of play at any stage unless within exceptional circumstances.
8. Not enter the dressing room at any stage unless within exceptional circumstances.
9. Tactical guidance to players must only be from OCB staff during OCB activity.
10. If you have feedback on games/training this must be done away from pitchside and/or training venues ensuring private discussion can take place.
11. In support of player development, players must make their own playing decisions with the team and coaches.
12. Accept OCB staff decision making regarding playing/training time, playing roles and tactics/input.
13. Be mindful of coaches' time and priorities when speaking with them.
14. Ensure their child remains with the team during the duration of the match to ensure greater team spirit and aid their child's development.
15. Not undermine the role of OCB staff during or after matches, by giving intentionally different advice to that which your child has been given.
16. Not to film matches unless permission has been granted by the relevant Oxfordshire Cricket coach/official in writing, having checked with the opposition for safeguarding purposes.
17. Celebrate effort and good play from both sides remembering that all players are attending for their own enjoyment and development.
18. Inform OCB staff of absence prior to the day where activity takes place. This is particularly important on matchdays.
19. Have meaningful and supportive conversations before, during and after activity.
20. Express areas of concern (cricket, safeguarding or otherwise) with OCB staff in private.
21. Not bring the game and OCB's reputation into disrepute. This includes the use of social media and consumption of alcohol. Please see Social Media policy <https://resources.ecb.co.uk/ecb/document/2024/01/11/cf2dcb7b-8346-4cd1-a589-5d3629fb176f/Social-Media-Online-Communication-and-Online-Safety.pdf>
22. Not to smoke in the vicinity of players, drink excessive alcohol or use banned substances whilst supporting.
23. Not provide young people with alcohol, nicotine or banned substances when they are engaged in OCB activities.