



## **Herefordshire Cricket – Listening to Children Policy and Statement**

Herefordshire Cricket is committed to ensuring all children participating in cricket, have a safe and positive experience. We aim to create a culture of listening to and consulting with children on a range of issues.

This will lead to an environment where people feel they can voice any concerns, in addition to sharing their ideas, likes and dislikes and to initiate improvements and enhance their overall enjoyment for the game.

Listening to children can help increase their self confidence and feelings of worth within themselves. When listened to, children feel their own views are respected and valued by adults.

By listening to them, it helps professionals to understand children's lived experiences, hear their views about their lives and take effective action to support or safeguard them.

We want to inspire the younger generation to believe and say, 'cricket is a game for me'

### **How will Herefordshire Cricket do this**

- Welcome Pack

We will provide everyone with a welcome pack, with all the information they need to have, eg, dates, times, venues, and the information on who they need to contact if they have any concerns.

- We will involve the children in decision making

We will create opportunities for children to share ideas and be actively involved in shaping the cricketing activities by making sure the coaches always have time to review the session at the end. There will be a feedback box at the sessions where the children can leave notes and these will be checked after every session.

QR codes will be displayed on posters and will be visible at all sessions. There will be 2 separate posters – 1 for safeguarding and 1 for children to express their feelings if they feel they can't express themselves.

- We will encourage feedback

We will send out a parent's survey halfway through the coaching programme and at the end for parents to fill in. The safeguarding team will visit the sessions at least once with a feedback form for the children to fill out there and then to share their opinions.

- We will create time for communication

We will use team building exercises and encourage opportunities for peer support.

- We will reflect on training and matches

Reflecting with all players before/during/after training/matches to celebrate successes and unsuccessful things and address any concerns. We will work to an environment that is measured on learning and not solely on success. Our coaches will work to ensure that they

recognise the needs of individuals. Some players will respond to continual feedback and others may need it at different stages and in smaller doses.

- Reviews will be annually

We will review how we listen to children annually.

The Pathway manager and the Safeguarding Officers will be responsible for monitoring and challenging the success/effectiveness of 'Listening to Children' during their observations/supervision of the coaching team and during their annual reviews.

The ECB Listening to Children Workshop presentation slides can be downloaded [here](#)