

For Safeguarding - FAQ update

The following is intended as a safeguarding update in response to the key questions that have been raised by clubs as we all make the necessary adjustments to implement the Governments guidance in relation to the Covid-19 pandemic.

The following issues are addressed:

- the ratio of coaches working with children;
- face-to-face Identity (ID) Document Verification for DBS checks;
- club Affiliation Guidance for Counties in WGS CRM – FAQs;
- guidance for Clubs in WGS Portal in light of changes connected with the Covid-19 pandemic.

Coaches working with children

Guidance issued on 1 June following discussion with DCMS, enabled coaches to work with groups of 5 children, with the coach as the 6th person, if the coach had an in-date FA DBS check and there was another adult (this could have been a parent/carer or another coach), in sight of the activity.

This approach sought to facilitate a gradual start to some football activity in a proportionate way, with an observing adult in sight of the activity, whilst socially distanced and observing. Whilst this was supported by the DCMS, it has become apparent that this position has caused some confusion in respect of ensuring the correct ratio of coaches to children is always adhered to, and that this might lead to challenges for clubs and coaches locally.

Coaches must work on a ratio of **one coach to groups of no more than five children in each group (1:5)** and there must be a minimum of two FA-DBS-checked adults present at any one time.

For the avoidance of doubt this means:

- if there is only one group, there must be two FA DBS checked adults / coaches, therefore the ratio is 2:4 coaches to children; or
- if there are two or more groups of 5 children, coaches can work on the ratio of 1:5 coaches to children.

Face-to-face Identity (ID) Document Verification for DBS checks

[CLICK HERE](#) to access the 'Guidance on carrying out face-to-face Identity (ID) Document Verification for DBS checks in line with Government Covid-19 guidelines'

Measures must be in place to comply with Government guidance on the Covid-19 pandemic. Whilst currently there are very limited indoor venues available, over the coming weeks it is possible that the Government will review their guidance on public spaces, and this may provide additional opportunities for face-to-face ID verification to take place indoors.