

Club Children's Officer

The appointment of a Children's Officer is an essential element in the creation of a quality atmosphere within Nenagh Éire Óg Hurling & Football GAA Club. S/he will act as a resource for all members of the club with regard to children's issues. S/he will ensure that the children have a voice in the running of their club and can talk freely about their experiences in their sports activities. The Children's Officer will have access to the Club Executive Committee. S/he will have as her primary aim the establishment of a child centred ethos within the club. The Children's Officer will have the following functions:

- To promote awareness of the Code of Ethics and Good Practice for Children's Sport in Ireland within the club and particularly among the children and their parents/guardians. This could be achieved by the production of information leaflets, the establishment of children's/age group specific notice boards and by regular information meetings for the children and their parents/guardians
- To influence policy and practice within the club in order to prioritise children's needs
- To provide an accessible resource to children
- To see that children, know how to make concerns known to appropriate adults or agencies. Information disclosed by a child to the Children's Officer or any other adult within the club should be dealt with in accordance with the Department of Health and Children's Guidelines Children First and the Department of Health and Social Services
- To encourage the involvement of parents/guardians in the club activities and co-operate with parents/guardians in ensuring that each child enjoys his/her involvement in sport
- To act as an advisory resource to Sports Leaders on best practice in children's sport
- To report regularly to the Club Executive Committee
- To monitor changes in membership and follow up any unusual dropout, absenteeism or club transfers by children or Sports Leaders

The Children's Officers does not have the responsibility of investigating or validating child protection concerns within the club and has no counselling or therapeutic role. It is, however, possible that child protection concerns will be brought to the attention of the Children's Officer.