

Guidance: Unsupervised Children

What age can children be left unsupervised at a club?

- The NSPCC recommends that all children under 13 must be supervised by their parent, carer or guardian. This is due to concerns that they may not be mature enough to deal with an emergency or certain situations.
- It is a parent's decision as to what age they allow their child to attend tennis venues unsupervised.
- It is a parent's responsibility to teach their child how to respond to emergencies or situations that may arise outside the house, so they feel confident when their child is not under their supervision.

Can a tennis venue decide what age children can be unsupervised at their venue?

- Yes. Tennis venues can adopt NSPCC guidance or make their own decision about what age children can be without parental supervision. It is important that venues communicate any decision about what age children can be left at a tennis venue unsupervised, to all members; including young people.
- Whilst Clubmark clubs have child protection policies along with a designated Welfare Officer, this is to support in safeguarding children and young people and respond to any issues that may occur, not take on parental responsibilities.

All the club members know my child; can they supervise my child when I am not there?

- You may know all club members well, however specific arrangements still need to be made by you and another adult to supervise your child. The venue management and your child will need to be aware of any such arrangement. Children who are left on club premises with lots of adults is not acceptable.

Safeguarding Team Contact Details

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You may find it useful to refresh your knowledge of the Safeguarding Children and Young People Policy and Safeguarding Adults Policy (as required) and guidance. This can be found at www.lta.org.uk/safeguarding.