



Changing and Showering Policy

Bromyard RFC has an approved policy on the appropriate use of changing rooms and showering facilities which is in accordance with RFU guidelines and Child Protection Policy:

- Adults and children (Under 18) must never use the same facilities to shower or change at the same time.
- Any 17-year-old players for whom the club holds a completed 'Playing Adult Rugby Form' will be treated as adults for the purposes of showering and changing. We anticipate that most 17-year-olds will be happy to shower and change with their teammates, however alternative arrangements may need to be made if a young person requests this, such as allowing the 17-year-old to shower first. We want to protect everyone in the game, and it is sensible to avoid a situation where a 17-year-old is left alone with only one other adult in the shower or changing area.
- Adults must only enter changing rooms being used by children when absolutely necessary due to accident, injury, illness or extreme poor behaviour.
- Adults must only ever enter the changing rooms by themselves in an emergency and if waiting for another adult to be present could result in harm to a child or vulnerable adult.
- If children or vulnerable adults need supervising in changing rooms, or coaches or managers need to carry out a range of tasks in that environment this must involve two suitably vetted (RFU issued DBS) adults of the same gender as the children or vulnerable adults. For mixed gender activities separate facilities should be made available.
- If the same facilities must be used by adults and children or vulnerable adults on the same day, a clear timetable should be established to ensure that changing/showering facilities are not shared by adults and children at the same time.
- No pressure should be placed on children or vulnerable adults who may feel uncomfortable changing or showering with others, if this is the case they should be allowed to shower and change at home if requested.



- Where a disability requires significant support from a parent or carer, the person concerned, and their parents must decide how they should be assisted to change or shower. Before any assistance is offered by another person, appropriate consent should be given by a parent.
- Mobile phones, cameras, video cameras and other image capturing devices are strictly not permitted in changing rooms unless being used to make an emergency telephone call.
- Any breach or suspected breach of the above policy should be reported urgently to the Club's Safeguarding Officer, Terry Pilliner 07725 475399 or at terrypill@hotmail.co.uk.