

Supervision Policy

Ensure Adequate Adult / Child Ratios

Good practice dictates that a leader should try to ensure that more than one adult is present. This will help to ensure the safety of the children as well as protect adults.

Adult / Child Ratios will depend on the nature of the activity, the age of the participants and any special needs of the group. A general guide should be 1:8 for 12 years of age and under, 1:10 for 13 years of age and over.

For trips away Tennis Ireland's guide is 1:6

There should be at least one adult of each gender with mixed parties.

Environment

- As stated above, away trips will need higher rates of supervision 1:6 and these should be ensured with the organisers. Children and young people should be supervised at all times.
- Avoid adults being left alone with young participants, if a leader needs to talk separately to a participant this should be done in an open environment, in view of others.
- Respect the privacy, while changing, of young people.
- Leaders may need to enter changing rooms only where the participants are very young or require special assistance and should do so only with the approval of the parent or carer.
- When necessary, leaders should supervise in pairs or seek assistance. It is the safety and welfare of the participants that is of paramount importance.
- It is the responsibility of parents/guardians to make arrangements for collection on time of young people. It should be made clear that the club is responsible only for club activities.
- Leaders should not be left alone with young people at the end of a training or organised play sessions. Clearly state times for start and finish of training and/or competitions.
- If late collections occur leaders should remain in pairs until participants have left.
- If a child suffers an injury or accident the parents/ guardians should be informed and an incident report completed.

