

Lesley Barrett is Lancaster Armature Swimming and Water Polo Club Child Protection officer. If you are being Physical, Sexual, Emotional abused or being neglected then Sandra is there at all times to offer advice and help.

What is Child Abuse?

It's generally acknowledged that there are four main types of abuse - Physical, Sexual, Emotional and Neglect.

PHYSICAL ABUSE may involve hitting, shaking, throwing, poisoning, burning or scalding, drowning, suffocating, or otherwise causing physical harm or deliberate ill health to a child. It might also occur if a child is forced to train beyond his/her capabilities.

SEXUAL ABUSE involves forcing or enticing a child to take part in sexual activities, whether or not the child is aware of what is happening. It may involve physical contact, including penetrative or non-penetrative acts, involving children in looking at, or in the production of, pornographic material, or encouraging children to behave in sexually inappropriate ways.

EMOTIONAL ABUSE is the persistent emotional ill treatment of a child that adversely affects their development. It may involve conveying to a child that they are worthless, unloved, and inadequate, or where inappropriate expectations are put upon them. In a sporting context this may include severe parental or coaching pressure to succeed. Racially and sexually abusive remarks constitute emotional abuse and it can be a feature of bullying.

NEGLECT is the persistent failure to meet a child's basic physical and/or psychological needs, likely to result in the serious impairment of the child's health or development, such as failing to provide shelter, food, clothing, or unresponsiveness to a child's basic emotional needs. In a sporting context it could also mean failing to ensure they are safe or exposing them to harm.

About LAS&WPC

POLICE CHECKS ON CLUB COACHES/ HELPERS - All coaches and helpers working within the club are police checked and lists of helpers are held on a database by and, reviewed annually by the A.S.A. There are times when swimming teachers will physically guide children through a swimming movement or technique or to move them to one side to reassure them. Should there be any reason for concern at this practice or at any other time, the matter should be brought to the attention of a club officer, or the Welfare Officer.

PHOTOGRAPHY, VIDEO RECORDING - Any person wishing to video or take photographs at any club event must first register and obtain permission from the person(s) responsible for organising the event. LCAS&WPC maintains such a register at all club events