

Safeguarding Bulletin

September 2026

DBS Checks – Change to Supervision Rules

There has been a recent change to DBS requirements for those working with children. The previous **supervision exemption has been removed**, meaning some volunteers who previously did not require a DBS because they worked under supervision may now need one.

Clubs should therefore **review anyone involved with junior bowls or activities involving under-18s**, including coaches, assistant coaches, Safeguarding Officers, volunteer helpers, event helpers and those transporting children.

If a role involves **teaching, coaching, training, instructing, caring for or supervising children**, an **Enhanced DBS check may be required**, even when the person is supervised.

Where the role is carried out **more than 3 days in any 30-day period, or involves certain overnight activities**, an Enhanced DBS with a **Children's Barred List check** may be required.

Please review your club roles and check whether anyone is now affected by this change

<https://www.gov.uk/find-out-dbs-check>

National Survey

Have Your Say

There is still time to complete our National Club and Volunteer Survey!

If you volunteer at a bowls club in any capacity, we want to hear from you.

Whether you're a committee member, coach, welfare officer, greenkeeper, competition organiser, administrator or simply someone who helps out when needed, your experience matters.

The survey takes around 10 minutes to complete and all responses are confidential.

<https://bit.ly/ClubAndVolunteerSurvey2026>

Week of Learning

October Week of Learning is back and now open for bookings!

The Safeguarding training will cover **Bystander Awareness**

This one-hour online session will explore how we can all play a role in creating a safe and supportive environment within bowls.

Monday 12th October

Safeguarding: Bystander Awareness:
6pm–7pm

Thursday 15th October

Safeguarding: Bystander Awareness:
10am–11am.

Book here: [Week of Learning - Bowls Development Alliance](#)

