

# Safeguarding Bulletin

August 2024

## This month's focus: Neurodiversity

**Neurodiversity describes the idea that people experience and interact with the world around them in many different ways; there is no one "right" way of thinking, learning, and behaving, and differences are not viewed as deficits (Harvard Health)**

ADHD, Autism, Dyslexia and Dyspraxia fall under the category of Neurodiversity.

Research suggests that Neurodiverse children and young people are at an increased risk of experiencing abuse. Abuse can also be overlooked as signs or indicators of abuse could be interpreted as a characteristic of the individual's disability.

To help create a meaningful experience for a neurodiverse member here are a few suggestions:

- Remember that an individual needs to be considered as a person first, not just considered for their disability.
- Be led by the individual and do not make assumptions about their needs.
- Can you make small adaptations? For example, lower-level lighting, a quiet space for people to access, small group sessions.
- Increase your knowledge about neurodiversity.

## Weeks of Learning

On the 12<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> of August the BDA are delivering online sessions about Safer Membership.

You can sign up here:

[Education - Bowls Development](#)

## Awareness Days

**12<sup>th</sup> August: International Youth Day**

[International Youth Day - Background | United Nations](#)

**September 10<sup>th</sup>: World Suicide Prevention Day**

[World Suicide Prevention Day | Campaigns | Samaritans](#)

**13<sup>th</sup> September: Stand Up To Cancer Day**

[About | Stand Up To Cancer](#)

## Do you know who to contact?

The following link takes you to useful safeguarding contacts, including your NGB lead:

[Useful contacts & links - Bowls Development Alliance](#)



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## Coach Bowls Course Update

Coach Bowls have developed a "Safeguarding Officer" training course, that replaces the Child, Adult and Time to Listen courses. This means Safeguarding Officers now only need to complete one course, making it more time efficient and cost effective for all.

Follow the link to book a date and check out the other courses on offer: [Our Courses | Coach Bowls](#)