

# Inspire Sports Equipment Safety Policy



## Policy statement

Inspire Learning Trust (which includes Oakwood High School, Sitwell Junior School, Winterhill School and Thomas Rotherham College and for the purposes of this policy is referred to as the Trust) sites all use this policy when complying with sports equipment safety and set up. Each institution will maintain its equipment and follow standards set by the national governing bodies and keep up to date with the national guidance.

In this policy we will outline that the Inspire Sports facilities all comply with the FA, BSI standards and the Basketball England hoop standard. Under the health and safety law we will make all premises and any equipment provided for use safe, as far as is reasonably practicable. The health and safety law for leisure activities requires employers and self-employed to protect people other than those at work (e.g., volunteer staff like coaches, club members, visiting teams and spectators) from risks to their health and safety arising out of, or in connection with, their work activities.

Below you will find the guidance for all sports fixed equipment we have at the Inspire Sports sites. You will find standards of use when indicated by national governing bodies and how to correctly set up these pieces of equipment. All staff will set this equipment up for you before your bookings, regularly check it for defects, and all equipment will undergo regular maintenance to ensure proper functionality. Within the areas there is either a storage room or recess areas to keep goals and equipment whilst game play is happening.

## Why we have a policy

The Trust has a legal right to use this policy for all users of the facility and staff to understand the equipment used in our Inspire Sports area is compliant with rules, regulations and guidelines associated with the relevant national governing body.

Following the guidance from:

The FA BSI standards and guidance.  
England Basketball hoop standards.  
Health and Safety Executive correct use of equipment

The aim of the policy is to provide all users with an indication of how we set up and keep equipment safe.

## **Areas required within this Policy**

### **Football Association Goal Post Safety**

All the Inspire Sports sites will follow goal post safety guidance from the FA (the link below listed directs users to the FA Goal post Guidelines) is the guidance we follow for maintenance, purchasing and correct usage.

**<https://www.thefa.com/get-involved/goalpost-safety>.**

Inspire Sports will use the FA standards BSEN 748 (2004) and BS 8462 (2005).

#### **Football Goal set up:**

##### **Indoor 5 aside goals**

The indoor 5 aside goals are stored in the sports hall storeroom and must be carried to the correct area of the sports hall by two members of staff. You must make sure that both sides of the goal are pulled out fully, by pressing down on the sticker on the bar, then when fully open the jubilee clip that is attached to the goal and the goal must be attached to the clasp on the wall. When the goals need to be put away, they must be put on the brackets back in the sports hall storeroom to secure these.

##### **Outdoor 3G pitch 9 a side (x6) and 11 a side (x2) Football Goals**

All goals on the pitches are on wheels. To move these, you must lift the lever and move into position, whilst watching your toes when releasing back to the floor. You will require two people to move the goals into a new position. All goals are set up with the 9 aside goals placed on each third of the pitch, the 11 aside goals are also left in position. If you wish for the pitch and goals to be set up differently, please contact Inspire Sports before your booking.

##### **Futsal Goals (x2)**

All futsal goals must be erected and put away by two people. The back bar must be fitted, and the goals must be weighed down with sandbags (x 4) When not in use they are put away in the sports hall storeroom, with a velcro tape to hold these in place; to avoid the side bar opening whilst setting up.

##### **Grass pitch football goals**

These are a permanent fixture and if taken down are done so by our contractors. The goal posts comply with the FA standards.

***n.b. All goals are checked regularly by Inspire Sports staff for any defects.***

### **Basketball Equipment set up**

We follow all basketball England rules and regulations for courts and hoops (see link below for Basketball standards).

### Large full size basketball backboards and hoops (x2)

For basketball set up, you need ladders and pole which are stored in the sports hall storeroom. To set the end basketball hoops up; pull the frame away from the wall and when it is fully extended, go up the ladders and pull the rope down, attach the hook on to the wall bracket, pull the handle down to secure in place. One person will go up the ladder and the other person is to hold the ladder in place. To put the hoops away; climb up the ladder, pull the bar upwards, take off the hook that is attached to rope from the bar, walk down the ladder, go over to the frame, push back into the wall and make sure the frame is secured on the wall bracket. The wall backboards and baskets must be securely mounted and well maintained.

### Side basketball Backboards and hoops (x4)

These backboards can be lowered, by using the bar from storeroom with a hook. After game play these should be returned to position.

## **All other sports**

The other sports equipment we use at our sites are: hockey goals, badminton nets, table tennis tables, netball and volleyball. They all comply with the standards set by the relevant national governing bodies guidance. We regularly check the standards set by these governing bodies. As with all the equipment, we set up, we do regular checks, to make sure there are no defects which might jeopardize its usage. These pieces of equipment are set up by Inspire Sports staff before bookings, they are secured to fittings or socketed into the floor, as per the fitting guidance.

### Hockey goal set up

Hockey Goals require at least two members of staff to move. Goals are tilted back to move - to do this you place one foot on the back bar and tilt the goal towards you allowing you to move the goal into position.

### Badminton post set up

Badminton Posts are stored in our sports hall storeroom. The posts must be correctly positioned in the sports hall and the badminton net must be properly secured to prevent collapsing and, consequently, creating any trip hazards.

### Table tennis set up

Table tennis tables are kept in the sports hall storeroom and must be wheeled out. Once in position, you pull the silver pin out and the table will go flat and lock in place. Fit the net to both sides of the centre of the table. To put away; pull the pin out and lift the table upwards to fold the table up. Wheel it back into the sports hall storeroom.

## Netball set up

Netball posts are stored in the sports hall store room. The base should be secured to the floor by sandbag or locked onto the floor.

## Volleyball

The tall volleyball posts can be wheeled into position. The bases should be secured into the floor. Once secured you can wind the net into position.

## Participant's usage

All facility users and participants must inform staff if a piece of equipment is not in the position they want for their usage and must report any defects. Anyone playing any of the contact sports should wear the recommended and correct PPE associated with that sport e.g., shin pads, gum shield.

## How will the information be shared?

This policy will be shared via our facility rental website, be stored on Inspire Sports Website,

Links provided with our terms and conditions.

The Trust will review this policy each year unless the relevant national guidance change.

<b>Policy Review Frequency</b>	Annual
<b>Policy to be approved by</b>	
<b>Date of Review</b>	December 2023
<b>Approved by Chair</b>	
<b>Next Review</b>	December 2024
<b>Lead Professional / External Review</b>	Daniel Wilson
<b>Communication</b>	Website
<b>Document Location</b>	Every Compliance System, Document Library
<b>PA/HR Officer</b>	Leah Carr