

TRANSGENDER AND TRANSITIONING CHILDREN

There are a number of factors to consider when addressing the needs of transgender or transitioning children and changing facilities. Things to consider are:

- The child's feelings and preference about which gendered changing room they'd like to use.
- The privacy of the child.
- The feelings and privacy of other children in the same changing room.
- Practical arrangements such as leaving a child unsupervised.
- Any risks of bullying or unwanted behaviour towards that child.

If a child self-identifies as a gender that differs from the gender they were assigned at birth, they may wish to start changing with other children of the same gender identity or ask for privacy. Clubs, facilities and coaches should try to make reasonable adjustments to changing arrangements to suit the child's needs and reduce the risk of bullying behaviour or distress. Reasonable adjustments could include:

- Providing a private, separate changing space for the child.
- Supporting the child with any changes to previous changing arrangements.
- Educating other children in the team on gender identity and celebrating difference.
- Arranging for that child to change at a different time to other children or at home.

In most cases, children who are able to self-identify as transgender are able to articulate their wishes. Best practice is to consult with both the child and their parents where necessary about any potential changes to arrangements.

