

# Supervision Requirements



## Supervision Levels

It is important to ensure that, in planning and running activities for participants, consideration is given to providing an appropriate staffing/supervision ratio of adults to participants, at all times.

This should be considered as part of your risk assessment, and will vary depending on the participants' age, gender, behaviour, disability and the abilities within the group. It will also be influenced by the nature and duration of activities, volunteer or staff experience, location, any special medical needs and/or any specialist equipment that might be needed.

**Anyone acting in a supervisory capacity must be aged 18 and over.**

## Supervision Ratios (per session)

The below supervision ratios are best practice guidance established by the NSPCC.

Participant Age Range	No of Adults	No of Participants
0-2 years	1	3
2-3 years	1	4
4-8 years	1	6
9-12 years	1	8
13-18 years	1	10

**Source:** [Recommended adult to child ratios for working with children | NSPCC Learning](#)

**Note:** Although ratio guidelines include one adult, it is best practice to ensure there are two adult volunteers or members of staff present when working with or supervising participants of all ages.

## Those in supervisory roles are required to:

- Understand their responsibility to keep participants safe
- Have clear roles and responsibilities
- Meet safer recruitment checks, including disclosure checks and safeguarding training
- Be aware of the codes of conduct outlining expected standards
- Be appropriately qualified for the role and activity

## Coaches

Coaches who are expected to work on their own initiative, holding a position of trust with sole charge of a session, must be aged 18 years or older at the time of qualification/certification. An RDA Coach in Training may be 16 years old, however those who go on to train and then become assessed to become a Group Coach or Coach, which enables them to coach without supervision, must be aged 18 years or older.

**Supervision when travelling/transporting** - Please refer to separate guidance on transportation, available to download here, [Best Practice and Resources \(myrda.org.uk\)](#)