

Sport CIC <sportcollisioninjurycollective@gmail.com>

Open Letter: Preventing injuries in children playing school rugby

Monica Roberts < Monica. Roberts @childcomwales.org.uk >

Thu, Apr 21, 2016 at 11:37 AM

To: "sportcollisioninjurycollective@gmail.com" <sportcollisioninjurycollective@gmail.com>

Cc: "Adam.White@winchester.ac.uk" <Adam.White@winchester.ac.uk>, "Adam.white@sportcic.com"

<Adam.white@sportcic.com>

Dear Adam White

Further to your follow up email of 6 April please find attached a copy of the Children's Commissioner for Wales' response which was emailed on 29 March.

Kind regards

Monica Roberts

Monica Roberts

Executive Assistant to Children's Commissioner and Chief Executive I Cynorthwy-ydd Gweithredol i'r Comisiynydd Plant a'r Prif Swyddog Gweithredol

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From: Monica Roberts < Monica. Roberts @childcomwales.org.uk >

To: "sportcollisioninjurycollective@gmail.com" <sportcollisioninjurycollective@gmail.com>

Cc: Bcc:

Date: Tue, 29 Mar 2016 15:18:18 +0000

Subject: Open Letter: Preventing injuries in children playing school rugby

Dear Allyson and Eric

Thank you for bringing to my attention the "Open letter: Preventing injuries in children playing school rugby." I followed the recent media debate about this issue with great interest. I have thought about the issues involved and discussed them with my team and my views are as follows.

Firstly, many sports carry an element of risk but this should be balanced with the huge range of benefits from taking part. It is important that children and young people and their parents are aware of the possibility of injury and provided with appropriate advice and guidance about such risks. Provided that they have been given this information and that they haven't requested not to play the sport, then they should be allowed to do so.

Secondly, it is extremely important that children and young people playing any contact sport receive appropriate coaching and training to minimise injuries.

Thirdly, children and young people who do not wish to participate in sports that carry the risk of injury should be provided with the opportunity of playing other sports should they wish. I do not believe that they should be compulsory.

Yours sincerely

Sally

Sally Holland

Children's Commissioner for Wales

Monica Roberts

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