

Prospect Academy Football Club

Safeguarding Children Policy

1. Introduction

The Prospect Academy Football Club is committed to providing a safe and nurturing environment for all children and young people who participate in our football activities. This Safeguarding Children Policy outlines our commitment to safeguarding the welfare of children and promoting their well-being, both on and off the field. This policy applies to all staff, volunteers, coaches, parents, players, and anyone involved with the club.

2. Policy Statement

We are dedicated to creating an environment where children and young people can enjoy playing football in a secure and respectful atmosphere, free from harm or abuse. We believe that safeguarding children is everyone's responsibility and will take all necessary steps to ensure their protection.

3. Key Principles

Promoting Well-being: We will prioritise the well-being of children and young people by fostering a positive and inclusive environment that values both their individual and collective needs and aspirations.

Safe Recruitment: All staff and volunteers involved in the club will undergo a thorough recruitment process, including background checks and reference checks, to ensure their suitability for working with children.

Training and Awareness: All staff, volunteers, and coaches will receive regular training on child protection and safeguarding procedures to ensure they are aware of their responsibilities and can recognise signs of abuse.

Reporting and Responding: Any concerns about the welfare of a child will be taken seriously and dealt with promptly. We will follow the appropriate reporting procedures and cooperate with relevant authorities as necessary.

Confidentiality: Information about children and young people will be treated confidentially and shared only on a need-to-know basis. We will respect their privacy while ensuring their safety.

Code of Conduct: A clear code of conduct will be established for all staff, volunteers, coaches, players, and parents to ensure appropriate behavior and interactions that prioritise the safety and well-being of children.

4. Designated Safeguarding Officer

The club will appoint a Designated Safeguarding Officer (DSO) who will be responsible for overseeing the implementation of this policy, providing advice and guidance, and being the point of contact for any safeguarding concerns. The DSO will also receive appropriate training to carry out their role effectively.

5. Reporting Concerns

Any individual who has concerns about the welfare of a child should report these concerns to the Designated Safeguarding Officer. If the concern involves the DSO, individuals should report directly to the club committee.

6. Communication and Awareness

This Safeguarding Children Policy will be communicated to all staff, volunteers, coaches, parents, and players. It will be accessible on the club's website and through other relevant communication channels.

7. Review

This policy will be reviewed annually to ensure its effectiveness and relevance. Any necessary updates will be made to reflect changes in legislation, governing body regulations, best practices, and the club's activities.

By following this Safeguarding Children Policy, the Prospect Academy Football Club aims to provide a safe and enjoyable football experience for all children and young people involved in our activities.

Policy Adopted On: 1st September 2023

Next Review Date: 1st August 2023

Designated Safeguarding Officer:**

Club President: Vacciana Franklin