



Policy: Safeguarding Children & Vulnerable Adults

PLAY FC “the club”

1. The Club acknowledges its responsibility to safeguard the welfare of all children and vulnerable adults involved in the Club from harm.
2. The Club confirms that it adheres to the F.A.’s Safeguarding Policy and the procedures, practices and guidelines and endorses the policy in it’s entirety.
3. A child is anyone under the age of 18 engaged in any futsal activity. However, where a 17 year old male or female player is playing in the adult game it is essential that every reasonable precaution is taken to ensure their safety and wellbeing are protected.
4. The Key Principles of the FA Safeguarding Policy are:
 - a) The child’s welfare is, and must always be, the paramount consideration
 - b) All children and young people have a right to be protected from abuse regardless of their age, gender, disability, culture, language, racial origin, religious beliefs or sexual orientation
 - c) All suspicions and allegations of abuse will be taken seriously and responded to swiftly and appropriately
 - d) Working in partnership with other organisations, children and young people and their parents and carers is essential.
5. The Club recognises that all children have the right to participate in sport in a safe, positive and enjoyable environment whilst at the same time being protected from abuse, neglect, harm and poor practice. The Club recognises that this is the responsibility of everyone involved, in whatever capacity, at the club.
6. The Club will implement and comply with the FA Code of Conduct and the Codes of Conduct for Coaches, Spectators and Officials as appropriate. The Club will ensure its spectators, parents, members, and officials are all aware of and have accepted the club Photographic Policy as set out in the Terms and Conditions on the website.
7. The Club will endeavour to comply with the Guidance for Websites as set out by the FA.
8. The Club Welfare Officer is Beth Lovell whose photograph and contact details appear on the “Meet the Team” page of the Club’s website. If you witness or are aware of an incident where the welfare of a child or vulnerable adult has been put at risk, you must in the first instance inform the Club Welfare Officer. She will then inform the relevant people of any action that needs taking. If an incident involves the Club Welfare Officer you should inform Paul Sheath who is the Club Secretary.



9. All members of the Club who have a regular supervisory contact with children or a management responsibility for those working with children must undertake an FA Enhanced Criminal Records Bureau disclosure and must also hold up to date Safeguarding and Emergency First Aid certificates.

10. The Club will ensure that all its members, whether they are coaches, parents, players or officials will comply with the Best Practice Guidance as issued by the FA.

In summary, the following are NOT acceptable and will be treated seriously by the club and may result in disciplinary action being taken by the club and or the FA:

- a) Working alone with a child, children, vulnerable adult, or adults.
- b) Consuming alcohol whilst responsible for children or vulnerable adults.
- c) Providing alcohol to children or allowing its supply.
- d) Smoking in the presence of children.
- e) Humiliating children or vulnerable adults.
- f) Inappropriate or unnecessary physical contact with a child or vulnerable adult.
- g) Participating in, or allowing, contact or physical games with children or vulnerable adults.
- h) Having an intimate or sexual relationship with any child or vulnerable adult developed as a result of being in a 'position of trust'.
- i) Making sexually explicit comments or sharing sexually explicit material.

'Bad Practise' is defined as follows:

- When insufficient care is taken to avoid injuries (e.g. by excessive training or inappropriate training for the age, maturity, experience and ability of players)
- Allowing abusive or concerning practices to go unreported (e.g. a coach who ridicules and criticizes players who make a mistake during a match)
- Allowing hazing practices to go unreported
- Placing children or young people in potentially compromising and uncomfortable situations with adults (e.g. inappropriate use by a coach of social media with a young player(s))
- Ignoring health and safety guidelines (e.g. allowing young players to set up goal posts unsupervised by adults)
- Failing to adhere to the club's codes of practice (e.g. openly verbally abusing the referee)
- Giving continued and unnecessary preferential treatment to individuals
(Please note – this list is not exhaustive)

11. The Club will ensure that its coaching staff will receive the support and training considered appropriate to their position and role.

12. Any events held by the Club must comply with this Policy and if appropriate a Safeguarding Plan should be discussed and circulated to those affected. Any tours, overseas or domestic, undertaken by the Club must comply with the relevant FA Regulations and Guidance relating to tours.

Matt Lovell - Chairman - PLAY FC