



MARYFIELD UNITED FOOTBALL CLUB

FOUNDED 1947



Child Protection – Statement & Policy

Football can and does have a very powerful and positive influence on people – especially young people. Not only can it provide opportunities for enjoyment and achievement, it can also develop valuable qualities and skills such as self-esteem, leadership and teamwork. These positive effects can only take place if football is in the right hands – in the hands of those who place the welfare of all young people first and adopt practices that support, protect and empower them. The reality is that abuse does take place in football and in some cases coaches and other trusted adults in football have been convicted of abuse against children .

Everyone has a duty of care towards children and vulnerable adults to help to protect them from abuse. It is hoped that this policy and the supporting procedures will help create a safe environment in our football club and minimise risk for everyone involved in football at the Club. It offers all volunteers and players a clear position of **Maryfield United** and the expected standards to be upheld at all times. In addition, it provides the Club with Guidelines for the protection of children.

Adopting best practice by everyone will help to safeguard children from potential abuse as well as adults in positions of responsibility from potential false allegations of abuse. **Maryfield United** is committed to the protection of children through the implementation of this policy and the supporting procedures.

Maryfield United will:

- ☐ Respect and promote the rights of children for whom they are responsible.
- ☐ Accept the moral and legal responsibility to provide a duty of care for children for whom they are responsible, and implement procedures to safeguard their well-being and protect them from all forms of abuse.
- ☐ Promote the health and welfare of children by providing opportunities to participate in football safely.
- ☐ Recruit, train, support and supervise its staff/volunteers to adopt best practice to safeguard and protect children for whom they are responsible from abuse and to minimise risk to themselves.
- ☐ Require staff to adopt and abide by this Child Protection Policy and supporting procedures.
- ☐ Respond to any allegations of abuse in line with these procedures as well as implementing, where appropriate, the relevant disciplinary and appeals procedures.
- ☐ Review and evaluate this policy and supporting procedures on a regular basis.



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