



Career Opportunity

Designated Safeguarding Officer (DSO)

Working Location: Oaklands Park, Almondsbury, Bristol BS32 4AG and home based.

Salary: Circa £30,000 pa, subject to experience

Hours per week: 37.5

Closing Date: Midday, 8th May 2024

In-person Interview Date: Wednesday 15th May 2024

Vacancy: This permanent staff vacancy has arisen because the current Designated Safeguarding Officer has accepted a more senior role at The FA.

What we are looking for:

- We are looking for a person with significant safeguarding experience and a passion for grassroots football to join our team. They will manage the Association's safeguarding work in accordance with FA safeguarding policy, procedures, regulations, and standards.
- This role would suit someone with relevant experience in child protection, safeguarding, or social work. They may have a qualification or experience from a wider safeguarding role or aligned profession. E.g., a role with safeguarding responsibilities such as a teacher, the police, the probation service, social services or as a council officer.
- The successful candidate will play a significant role in maintaining The FA Safeguarding 365 Standard for County FAs, driving safer practices, and supporting League and Club Welfare Officers in grassroots football.
- Candidates must be able to demonstrate a child-centred approach with the ability to maintain this perspective and apply common sense. They will have outstanding team working skills and be clear about what constitutes low level concerns, abuse and how to manage and escalate cases effectively.

What we can offer

We provide a friendly and inclusive team-based environment where you can develop and excel in your role whilst earning a competitive salary, enjoying a range of exciting benefits including:

- Access to high-quality FA training, networking, and personal development opportunities.
- A flexible work-life balance, working in an environment where you'll learn about all aspects of grassroots football.
- 28 days' Annual Leave including Bank Holidays. Contributory pension. Life insurance
- Access to FA event tickets such as England football matches and The FA Cup Final.
- Nike corporate clothing

Key Accountabilities (full details at <https://www.gloucestershirefa.com/about/vacancies>)

- Lead the operational delivery of safeguarding within Gloucestershire FA, being accountable for relevant areas of The FA's Safeguarding 365 Standard for County FAs.
- In partnership with an experienced Deputy DSO, take a dynamic and strategic approach to safeguarding delivery within the Association, raising awareness and providing organisational support and guidance to colleagues.
- Refer to The FA Safeguarding Case Management Team child abuse and adults at risk concerns, acting in line with the relevant FA safeguarding policy, regulations, and guidance.
- Deal with all low-level concerns and complaints with a focus on timeliness and outcomes
- Strategically manage and support League and Club Welfare Officer networks, liaising with the Local Authority Designated Officers, Local Safeguarding Partnerships, Local Safeguarding Adult Boards, Children's and Adults' Social Care Services, Police Child Protection Teams and support grassroots club welfare officers to be compliant with safeguarding legislation, FA safeguarding policy, best-practice guidance and education programmes.

Application and Selection process

- Full details of the role, including the job/person specification and application form can be viewed and downloaded from <https://www.gloucestershirefa.com/about/vacancies>
- Applicants should complete the Application Form and Equality and Diversity Monitoring Form and return it to Recruitment@GloucestershireFA.com no later than **midday, 8th May 2024**.
- Applications submitted by post to the Association's office are welcome, but applications received after deadline will only be considered in exceptional circumstances e.g. proof of posting indicates undue delay through no fault of the applicant.
- Receipt of applications will not be acknowledged.
- Shortlisted applicants will be contacted by 11th May 2024 to confirm an interview date/time.
- **In-person interviews at Gloucestershire FA's HQ on Wednesday 15th May 2024.**
- If required, second interviews may be held in order to determine the most suitable candidate for the role.

Application Documents

- Job Description and Person Specification
- Application Form
- Equality and Diversity Monitoring Form

Equality and Diversity

Gloucestershire FA actively promotes inclusion and diversity and welcomes applications from everyone. If you have any requirements in relation to the recruitment or interview process, please include details on the application form or contact us.

Our Organisation

Gloucestershire FA is the governing body of football in the County. We grow participation, promote diversity, and regulate the sport for everyone to enjoy. With over 600 Clubs and 2,400 teams of all ages and abilities playing in the County, Gloucestershire FA is proud to support Football For All.

Safeguarding Commitment

Gloucestershire FA is committed to safeguarding children and adults at risk. Due to the nature of this role, the successful candidate will be required to undertake an Enhanced Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) check through The FA DBS process. The possession of a criminal record will not necessarily prevent an applicant from obtaining this post, as all cases are judged individually according to the nature of the role and the information provided.

Contact

If you have any questions about the role or the selection process, please contact either Head of Strategy & Delivery, Matt Boucher or CEO & Senior Safeguarding Lead, David Neale, on 01454 615888 for an informal discussion.

Please find out more about Gloucestershire FA and the work we do on our website at

www.GloucestershireFA.com