



**ENGLAND
FOOTBALL**

Safeguarding Children Policy

1. The Norfolk County FA acknowledges its responsibility to safeguard the welfare of every child and young person who has been entrusted to its care and is committed to working to provide a safe environment for all children and young people taking part in its activities and events.

A child or young person is anyone under the age of 18 engaged in any football activity. The Norfolk County FA have adopted and abide by The Football Association's Safeguarding Children Policy and Procedures and endorse the Policy Statement contained in that document.

2. The key principles of The FA Safeguarding Children Policy are that:

The child's welfare is, and must always be, the paramount consideration

- All children and young people have a right to be protected from abuse regardless of their age, gender, disability, race, sexual orientation, faith or belief.
- All suspicions and allegations of abuse will be taken seriously and responded to swiftly and appropriately.
- Working in partnership with other organisations, children and young people and their parents or carers is essential.

We acknowledge that every child or young person who plays or participates in football should be able to take part in an enjoyable and safe environment and be protected from poor practice and abuse.

Norfolk County FA recognises that Safeguarding is the responsibility of every adult involved in their activities and events.

3. Norfolk County FA has a role to play in safeguarding the welfare of children and young people by protecting them from physical, sexual or emotional harm and from neglect and bullying. It is noted and accepted that The Football Association's Safeguarding Children Regulation (see County FA Handbook) applies to everyone in football whether in a paid or voluntary capacity.

4. Norfolk County FA endorses and has adopted The FA Safeguarding Children guidelines for recruiting volunteers.


All Norfolk County FA staff and volunteers with direct access to children and young people are required to complete an Enhance DBS (Disclosure and Barring Service) via The FA.

5. Norfolk County FA supports The FA's Whistleblowing Policy. Any adult or young person with concerns about a colleague can 'whistle blow' by contacting the Designated Safeguarding Officer on 01603 704050 or The FA Case Manager at The Football Association, Wembley Stadium, Wembley, London HA9 0WS or by going directly to the Police, Children's Services or the NSPCC.

6. We acknowledge and endorse The FA's identification of bullying as a category of abuse. Bullying of any kind is not acceptable and will be dealt with promptly.

The full Safeguarding Policy document can be viewed in the County FA Handbook or by contacting the Designated Safeguarding Officer at Norfolk County Headquarters.

Policy last reviewed and adopted by the Norfolk County FA Board of Directors on 17 October 2022

A stylized, handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a large, sweeping loop followed by a vertical stroke.

Michael Banham
Chairman

A handwritten signature in black ink, featuring a series of connected, fluid strokes.

Matt Carpenter
Chief Executive & Senior Safeguarding Lead