



GUIDANCE NOTES NO:

8.1

QUESTIONS YOU SHOULD ASK

FOR PARENTS AND CARERS

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FOR ALL

SAFEGUARDING IN FOOTBALL IS EVERYONE'S RESPONSIBILITY.

Led by a network of 8,500 welfare officers, clubs aim to provide a safe and fun environment for all.

If you want to play your part, we would encourage you to ask your child's club the following questions:

- Is my child's coach Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) checked, FA trained and qualified?
- How can I get a copy of the clubs safeguarding policy and procedures?
- Who is the Club Welfare Officer (CWO) for my child's team and how do I contact them?
- What is the role of the CWO?
- What should I do if I have a complaint?
- If I have a concern about a child or someone's behaviour towards a child what should I do?
- Do you have club codes of conduct and where can I view them?
- How will you communicate with me/my child?
- *If appropriate* – How will you support my child's medical/additional needs?

The FA would not expect clubs to:

- Discourage you from staying to watch or from becoming involved.
- Allow club officials to operate independently of the club.
- Have coaches showing favouritism or personally rewarding specific children.
- Accept inappropriate physical contact between coaches and players.
- A "win at all costs" attitude that impacts a child's well-being.
- Have coaches who invite players to spend time alone with them or to visit or stay in their home.

If you think any of these behaviours are happening, please contact your child's Club Welfare Officer, CFA Designated Safeguarding Officer or email The FA Safeguarding Team via Safeguarding@TheFA.com. If it is an emergency because a child or children are at immediate risk, then call the Police or Children's Social Care in your area or call the NSPCC 24-hour helpline on **0808 800 5000**.



**FOR MORE INFORMATION GO TO
[THEFA.COM/FOOTBALL-RULES-GOVERNANCE/
SAFEGUARDING](https://www.thefa.com/football-rules-governance/safeguarding)**



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