



# AYLESBURY UNITED JUNIORS FC

## General Safeguarding Policy

*Reviewed and Updated July 2018*

### 1. **Aylesbury United Juniors FC** is an FA Charter Standard Club.

It 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 them; their parents/guardians and all those associated with the Club and its activities.

A child or young person is anyone under the age of 18 years old engaged in any Club football activity.

**Aylesbury United Juniors FC** subscribe to The Football Association's Safeguarding Children Policy and Procedures. The Club endorses and adopts 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, culture, language, racial origin, religious beliefs or sexual orientation;
- All suspicions and allegations of abuse will be taken seriously and responded to swiftly and appropriately;
- Working in partnership with other organisations, children, young people and their parents/carers is essential.

It is acknowledged 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.

**Aylesbury United Juniors FC** recognises that this is the responsibility of every adult involved with or associated with the Club.

### 3. **Aylesbury United Juniors FC** has a role to play in safeguarding the welfare of all children and young people by protecting them from physical, sexual or emotional harm and from neglect or bullying.

It is noted and accepted that The Football Association's Child Protection Regulation (see The FA Handbook) applies to everyone in football whether in a paid or voluntary capacity. This means whether they are a volunteer, match official, helper, football coach, club official or medical staff.

### 4. **Aylesbury United Juniors FC** endorses and adopts The FA's Responsible Recruitment guidelines for recruiting volunteers and we will:

- Develop a role profile and specify what the role is and what tasks it involves;
- Request identification documents;
- As a minimum meet and chat with the applicant(s) and where possible conduct interviews before appointing;
- Request and follow up with two references before appointing;
- Require an FA DBS (Disclosure and Barring Service) Check where appropriate.



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5. All **Aylesbury United Juniors FC** members who are regularly caring for, supervising, training or being in sole charge of children and young people will be required to complete an FA DBS (Disclosure and Barring Service) Check.

If there are concerns regarding the appropriateness of an individual who is already involved with the Club or who has approached us to become part of our club, guidance will be sought from The Football Association.

It is noted and accepted that The FA will consider the relevance and significance of the information obtained via The FA DBS Check and that all decisions will be made in the best interests of children and young people.

It is accepted that The FA aims to prevent people with a history of relevant and significant offending from having contact with children or young people and the opportunity to influence policies or practice with children or young people. This is to prevent direct sexual or physical harm to children and to minimise the risk of 'grooming' within football.

**Please note:** The policy on CRB Enhanced Disclosures have been subject to change, in light of the Protection of Freedoms Act 2012. Further information is provided on this via [TheFA.com](http://TheFA.com) and via the County FA Welfare Officers.

6. **Aylesbury United Juniors FC** supports The FA's Whistle Blowing Policy and Safeguarding FOR ALL Guidance.

Any adult or young person with concerns about someone in a position of trust within the Club or football can 'whistle blow' by contacting The FA Safeguarding Team on **0800 169 1863**; by writing to The FA Case Manager at The Football Association, Wembley Stadium, PO Box 1966, London SW1P 9EQ or emailing [Safeguarding@TheFA.com](mailto:Safeguarding@TheFA.com); by going direct to the Police, Children's Social Care or the NSPCC.

Further information is available at: <http://www.thefa.com/football-rules-governance/safeguarding>

**Aylesbury United Juniors FC** encourages everyone to know about this information and utilise it if necessary. Further contact details appear at the end of this document.

7. **Aylesbury United Juniors FC** has appointed a Club Welfare Officer (CWO) in line with The FA's role profile and required completion of the Safeguarding Children and Welfare Officers Workshop.

The post holder will be involved with Welfare Officer training provided by The FA and/or County FA. The CWO is the first point of contact for all Club members regarding concerns about the welfare of any child or young person.



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The CWO will liaise directly with the County FA Welfare Officer and will be familiar with the procedures for referring any concerns.

They will also play a proactive role in increasing awareness of **Respect**, poor practice and abuse amongst Club members.

8. We acknowledge and endorse The FA's identification of bullying as a category of abuse.

If bullying does occur, all players or parents/carers should be able to tell and know that incidents will be dealt with promptly. Incidents need to be reported to the Club Welfare Officer or Club Officials. Alternatively, in cases of serious bullying, the County FA Welfare Officer (CFA) may be contacted.

9. **Respect** codes of conduct for Players, Parents/Spectators, Officials and Coaches have been implemented by **Aylesbury United Juniors FC**. In order to validate these Respect codes of conduct the Club has clear actions it will take regarding repeated or serious misconduct at Club level and acknowledges the possibility of potential sanctions which may be implemented by the CFA in more serious circumstances. All registering members will be required to adopt the Respect codes.

10. Reporting your concerns about the welfare of a child or young person – **Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility.**

**If you are worried about a child, it is important that you report your concerns – no action is not an option!!**

**If you are worried about an adults behaviour or actions; it is important that you report your concerns – no action is not an option!!**

- i. If you are worried about a child then you need to report your concerns to the Club Welfare Officer.
- ii. If the issue is one of poor practice the Club Welfare Officer will either:
  - deal with the matter themselves or
  - seek advice from the County FA Welfare Officer
- iii. If the concern is more serious - possible child abuse - they will, where possible, contact the County FA Welfare Officer first, then immediately contact the Police or Children's Social Care.
- iv. If the child needs immediate medical treatment take them to a hospital or call an ambulance and tell them this is a child protection concern. Let your Club Welfare Officer know what action you have taken, they will then inform the County FA Welfare Officer.
- v. If at any time you are not able to contact your Club Welfare Officer or the matter is clearly serious then you can either:
  - contact your County Welfare Officer directly



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- contact The FA Safeguarding Team on 0800 169 1863 or [safeguarding@TheFA.com](mailto:safeguarding@TheFA.com)
- report your concerns to the Child Protection in Sport Unit via [cpsu@nspcc.org.uk](mailto:cpsu@nspcc.org.uk)
- contact the Police or Children's Social Care
- call the NSPCC 24 hour Helpline for advice on 0808 800 5000 or email [help@nspcc.org.uk](mailto:help@nspcc.org.uk)

NB – The FA's Safeguarding Children Policy and Procedures are available via – <http://www.thefa.com/football-rules-governance/safeguarding> – click on 'Best Practice Downloads', the Policy and Procedures document is within the resources area. The policy outlines in detail what to do if you are concerned about the welfare of a child and includes flow diagrams which describe this process. How to make a referral is also covered in the Safeguarding Children workshop. Participants are given the opportunity to discuss how this feels and how best they can prepare themselves to deal with such a situation.

**11.** Further advice on Safeguarding Children matters can be obtained from:

### **Aylesbury Utd Juniors Welfare Officers:**

- Louise Ashley (Club Welfare Officer) – [louieqpr@aol.com](mailto:louieqpr@aol.com) – Mobile: 07989 533 232
- Lee Cotton (Club Secretary) – [aylesburyutdjuniorsfc@gmail.com](mailto:aylesburyutdjuniorsfc@gmail.com) – Mobile: 07932 020 497
- Adey White (Club Chairman) – [chairman.aujfc@gmail.com](mailto:chairman.aujfc@gmail.com) – Mobile 07905 373 833

### **Berks and Bucks County Football Association Welfare Officer**

- Beryl Richardson – [safeguarding@berks-bucksfa.com](mailto:safeguarding@berks-bucksfa.com) – Tel: 01235 544894
- <http://www.thefa.com/football-rules-governance/safeguarding>
- The FA Safeguarding Team on 0800 169 1863