

Dorset FA Designated Safeguarding Officer: Zoe Pollard Zoe.Pollard@dorsetfa.com, 01202 688281 or 07908 647054

Dorset FA Senior Safeguarding Lead: Kevin Pike Kevin.Pike@dorsetfa.com, 01202 688270 or 07903 574657

Every child or young person (CYP) who plays or participates in football should be able to take part in an enjoyable and safe environment and be protected from abuse. This is the responsibility of every adult involved in football, thus every club is required to endorse and adhere to The Association's Safeguarding Children Policy.

The FA recognises its responsibility to safeguard the welfare of CYP who play or participate in football by protecting them from abuse and harm. This means creating a safe and inclusive atmosphere where everyone works together to tackle both bullying and discrimination, ensure safer recruitment, and tackle poor practice which leads to harm and reduces equal opportunities. Best practice in inclusion, anti-bullying, equality and the respect agenda are all part of making safer cultures and prevention of harm and abuse.

The FA is committed to working to provide a safe environment for all CYP to participate in the sport to the best of their abilities for as long as they choose to do so.

For a full copy of The FA Safeguarding Children Policy go to <http://www.thefa.com/football-rules-governance/safeguarding>

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.

- 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 our League Welfare Officer.
 - Seek advice from Dorset FA Designated Safeguarding Officer.
- iii. If the concern is more serious – possible child abuse, where possible, contact the Dorset FA Designated Safeguarding 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 in turn will inform the Dorset FA Designated Safeguarding 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 Dorset FA Designated Safeguarding Officer directly;
 - Contact The FA Safeguarding Team on 0800 169 1863 or Safeguarding@TheFA.com;
 - Contact the Police or Children's Social Care;
 - Call the NSPCC 24 hour Helpline for advice on 0808 800 5000 or text 88858 or email help@nspcc.org.uk.