



Birtley Town Football Club

Child Protection Policy

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1: Child Protection Policy Statement

Birtley Town Football Club aims to promote the development of young people in a safe and friendly environment.

This will be achieved by implementing good management policies and practice as a means of preventing the physical, sexual, and emotional abuse of children, whilst in the care of the organisation.

We must all recognize that the safety of our young is paramount to the activity of our CLUB.

Signed:

Club Secretary *A. Bull*

Date: 01/01/2020

2: Circulation

2.1 A copy of this document will be issued to all committee members, team members, assistants and parents/guardians of children registered or training with the CLUB.

3: Personal Responsibilities

3.1 Parents should be clear that they are responsible for ensuring that the children properly supervised to the venue of the training sessions or football matches.

They are also responsible for the supervision of their own children on transport organised for CLUB travel and at social and fundraising events.

3.2 Team members must ensure that the venue for training sessions and football matches are suitable for the purpose and, so far as reasonably practicable, will be safe.

(Consideration should be given to safe access to the venue, e.g., lighting, crossing roads etc.)

4: Situation of Risk

4.1 Team Managers and assistants must avoid occasions where a single adult is in the company of a lone child. If a single adult is working with a lone child where the activity cannot be observed by the remainder of the team, the parent or another adult must be asked to be present.

4.2 For girls' teams, only a female adult will be allowed in any changing facility unless there is imminent danger to a child or children.

5: Appointment of Team Managers

5.1 The appointment of Team Managers/Coaches is at the discretion of the CLUB committee. Any appointment will be subject to a probation period of not less than six months.

The successful completion of this probation will be confirmed and minuted by the CLUB committee.

5.2 As any work that directly involves contact with children and is therefore exempt from the provisions of the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974, the committee will seek a criminal record check on all Team Managers.

5.3 References may be sought at the appointment of a Team manager. If the applicant has had employment or acted in a voluntary capacity working with children, references will be sought from the employer or a person with firsthand knowledge of his work.

Where an applicant has no experience of paid or voluntary work with children, a reference will be sought after from a reputable person who can comment on the applicant's character and relationships with others.

5.4 Any reference sought will be in the strictest of confidence and deal solely with the applicant's suitability to work with children.

6: Child Protection Officer

6.1 The CLUB will appoint a suitable person as Child Protection Officer who will act in a liaison capacity with Durham FA or Northumbria Police, on any matter concerning child protection.

The name and telephone number of the appointed person will be made available to all parents, committee members, team managers and assistants. See section 9 – Useful telephone numbers.

7: Concerns and Appropriate Action

7.1 If anyone is worried, has a query or requires more information on any matter relating to child protection they should contact the Child Protection Officer. If the Child Protection Officer cannot answer immediately, he/she will contact the local safeguarding officer at Durham Fa or the local police.

7.2 If anyone has any concerns or evidence that abuse has taken place then the Child Protection Officer, the local FA, Gateshead Metropolitan Borough Council Social Services Department, or the Local Police Station must be contacted immediately.

8: Allegations

8.1 If allegations are made against anyone connected with the CLUB, that person will be immediately suspended from any official post that they may hold within the CLUB and will have no further involvement in any CLUB activity, until the matter has been investigated and resolved.

9: Useful Telephone Numbers

Club Child Protection Officer: Sam Dawson 07496915316
Durham FA Safeguarding Officer: 0191 3872928
NSPCC: 08000232643

