



# New Buckenham Junior Football Club

## CHILD PROTECTION POLICY

The aim of New Buckenham Football Club and its officers is to promote the safety and protection of all children and adult members within its care.

### A GUIDE FOR EVERYONE INVOLVED WITH CHILDREN'S SPORT

Child abuse is a very emotive and difficult subject - especially if you think that your child or a child that you know is being harmed. This policy has been written to ensure that children who play for the Club are kept as safe as possible, and that all Managers, Coaches, Officials and Parents have clear guidelines that define acceptable and unacceptable behaviour. This will enable the Club to do everything it can to keep the children safe.

The policy also makes clear the steps that have to be taken if you suspect any child is being abused.

It explains what child abuse is, how to recognise it and what to do if you have any concerns.

If you suspect that any child is being abused it is **YOUR DUTY TO REPORT IT THROUGH THE CHANNELS DETAILED IN THIS POLICY.**

### WHAT IS CHILD ABUSE

Child abuse has always and will always happen.

Child abuse is a term used to describe ways in which children are harmed, usually by adults, sometimes by other children, and often by people they know and trust. It refers to damage done to a child's physical and mental health. Children can be abused within or outside their family, at school and in the sports environment.

Child abuse can take many forms:

#### **Physical abuse:**

- Where children are physically hurt by hitting, shaking, squeezing, biting, burning, kicking, etc.
- Giving children alcohol, drugs, poisons or stimulants.
- In a sports situation, physical abuse might occur when the nature and intensity of training exceeds the capacity of a child's immature body.

#### **Emotional Abuse**

- Children are vulnerable to emotional abuse and care must always be taken to ensure that a balance exists between criticism of performance and encouragement to prevent children becoming unhappy.

#### **Sexual Abuse**

- The inappropriate touching or interference of a child by an adult.
- Any act of a sexual nature.
- The inappropriate use of language of a sexual nature, or the encouragement of sexually orientated discussion.
- The showing of sexually explicit pictures.

### **Neglect**

- Situations where adults fail to meet a child's basic physical needs (e.g. Food, Drink, warm clothing).
- Consistent leaving of children alone and unsupervised.
- Failure or refusal to give support, care and attention when needed.
- Neglect, in a sports situation, which might occur if a coach fails to ensure children are safe, not exposed to undue cold or heat or undue risk of injury.

### **Guidance for all adults involved with New Buckenham Football Club**

- All teams should have a minimum of two adults in charge of them.
- Both adults should stay in attendance until the last player has left for home at both matches and training sessions.
- Never treat a lone player in the dressing rooms.
- Never allow themselves to be alone in a private situation with a player.
- Never play contact sports with players.
- Never travel alone with a player to matches or training sessions.

All coaches and officials will be CRB checked through the Child Welfare Officer with the FA.

- You should report any actual or suspected abuse immediately using the procedures defined in the policy.

### **The Procedure for Reporting Child Abuse**

If child abuse is reported to you or is suspected by you, this should be reported to the **child welfare officer** for the Club who is currently **Karen Hobley**, 9, St. Martin's Gardens, New Buckenham.

If you are not happy to report the matter to the club's welfare officer you may contact **Social Services** or the **NSPCC** on the numbers below and they will investigate the matter.

#### **Telephone numbers:**

New Buckenham J F C Child Welfare Officer: Karen Hobley	01953 860529
New Buckenham J F C Club Secretary: Jon Halfacree	01508 488078
Norfolk Social Services Family Protection Unit	01603 472413
NSPCC Helpline	0800 800 500
NSPCC Childline	0800 1111