



Arthur Griffith Park FC (AGP FC) Child Safeguarding Statement

1. Club Mission Statement

Arthur Griffith Park FC (AGP FC) is committed to promoting the welfare and protection of all children and young people involved in our club activities. We aim to create a safe, inclusive, and enjoyable environment for young athletes to develop, learn, and grow within our community. AGP FC fully supports the FAI's safeguarding policies and upholds the highest standards in child protection.

2. Principles to Safeguard Children

AGP FC's child safeguarding practices are guided by the following principles, in line with FAI policies and national child protection legislation:

- **Child-Centred Approach:** The welfare and best interests of children are our primary consideration.
- **Respect and Dignity:** All children have the right to be respected, valued, and protected from harm.
- **Non-Discrimination:** We are committed to treating all children and young people equally, regardless of gender, race, disability, or background.
- **Empowerment and Participation:** Children should feel encouraged to participate in all aspects of club life in a safe and supportive environment.

3. Risk Assessment

AGP FC has conducted a Child Welfare Risk Assessment to identify potential risks to the safety of young people within the club and has put in place control measures to mitigate these risks. Key areas addressed include:

- Safe recruitment practices for volunteers and coaches.
- Guidelines for physical contact during training.
- Policies for communication and social media use.
- Anti-bullying measures.
- Clear reporting mechanisms for child protection concerns.

4. Commitment to Safeguarding Practices

AGP FC commits to implementing the following practices to ensure child safety and adherence to FAI standards:

- **Garda Vetting:** All coaches, volunteers, and staff who interact with young players are subject to Garda vetting.
- **Safeguarding Training:** Mandatory safeguarding training is provided for all coaches, volunteers, and anyone in direct contact with children.
- **Code of Conduct:** A comprehensive Code of Conduct outlines expected behaviour for players, parents, coaches, and staff to promote a safe and respectful environment.
- **Child Welfare Officer (CWO):** AGP FC has appointed a Child Welfare Officer who is responsible for overseeing and implementing safeguarding practices, providing guidance, and acting as a primary contact for child protection concerns.

5. Procedures for Reporting Child Protection Concerns

AGP FC has established procedures for the reporting of child protection concerns or allegations, in line with FAI protocols and national legislation. All concerns should be reported to the Club's Child Welfare Officer, who will ensure that appropriate steps are taken, including liaising with statutory authorities where required.

6. Confidentiality

We respect the confidentiality of all individuals involved in child safeguarding concerns. All reports and investigations are handled with sensitivity, ensuring that only those who need to know are involved, and that information is stored securely.

7. Communication and Implementation

AGP FC communicates this Child Safeguarding Statement to all members, parents, and players and makes it available on our website and in club facilities. We ensure that all coaches, volunteers, and staff are familiar with and adhere to these safeguarding policies.

Contact Details for Reporting Concerns:

- **Child Welfare Officer:** Sinead O Kearney
Phone: 0857511888
Email: arthurgriiffithparkfc@gmail.com
 - **FAI Child Welfare and Safeguarding Office:**
Email: safeguarding@fai.ie
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Review

This Child Safeguarding Statement will be reviewed annually or as necessary to reflect any changes in policy or legislation.

Policy Approval Date: 01/07/2024

Next Review Date: 01/07/2025



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