

Ladies Football 4 Fun Safeguarding Adults and Children Policy

1. Policy statement

Ladies Football 4 Fun believe we have a responsibility to promote the welfare of all children, young people and adults who are in attendance of activities we provide. We are committed to creating and maintaining an enjoyable and safe environment for all.

This policy applies to all members of Ladies Football 4 Fun, it is in place to protect the welfare of children, young adults and vulnerable adults who attend Ladies Football 4 Fun sessions.

2. Definitions

- A young person is defined as a person under the age of 18 (Children's act 1989)
- A vulnerable adult is defined as someone over the age of 18 who is or may need community care services by reasons of mental health or other disability, age or illness and is or may be unable to take care of him or herself, or unable to protect him or herself against harm or exploitation. (Who Decides – Lord Chancellors Department 1997)

3. Policy Principles - Children

Ladies Football 4 Fun sessions are currently primarily for adults over the age of 18. We are not currently running sessions for children, however some of our sessions take place in areas where children may be present and therefore have put the following guiding principles in place:

- During sessions at school sites if children are on the pitch that we are using they will be asked to leave.
- All members are asked to refrain from bringing children with them to sessions.
- During sessions within park settings, we continue to ask members to refrain from bringing children to sessions, but we also ensure our sessions are not encroaching on areas where children are using facilities.
- Ladies Football 4 Fun members are expected to treat all children that come into contact with members during sessions with dignity and respect.

4. Policy Principles – Adults and Vulnerable Adults

Ladies Football 4 Fun are committed to keeping all members safe. The following guiding principles have been put in place to protect adults and vulnerable adults during ladies football 4 fun sessions.

- All reasonable steps will be taken to prevent all members from harm, discrimination and degrading treatment. Ladies Football 4 Fun will not tolerate such behaviour and Session leaders hold the right to ask members to leave should they feel they are breaking this principle.
- The rights, wishes and feelings of all adults will be treated with respect and dealt with fairly.
- Confidentiality will be kept in line with legislation and government guidance.
- All Ladies Football 4 Fun members are expected to treat everyone with dignity and respect.
- Any act of bullying will be taken very seriously and may result in members being asked to leave.

- All session leaders are responsible for ensuring the correct reporting of incidents during sessions.
- All attendees to sessions are expected to wear appropriate clothing, including shin pads.
- Ladies Football 4 Fun hold a strict policy on participating in sessions under the influence of alcohol or drugs. Session leaders will ask a member to leave if they feel someone is under the influence of alcohol and / or drugs.
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5. Legislation

Ladies Football 4 Fun Safeguarding policy is in line with the following legislation:

- GDPR 2018
- The Children Acts 1989 and 2004
- The Protection of Children Act 1999
- The Police Act 1997
- The Criminal Justice and Court Services Act 2000
- The Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974
- The Data Protection Act 1998
- Every Child Matters 2003
- “Caring for the young and vulnerable” – Home Office guidance for preventing the abuse of trust 1999
- The ‘What to do if you are worried a child is being abused’ – 2006
- Working Together to Safeguard Children – 2006
- The UN Convention on the Rights of the Child – 1990
- The Human Rights Act 1998
- The Safeguarding Vulnerable Adults Act 2006
- Information sourced from the Royal Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain, ‘Guidance on the protection of Vulnerable Adults’, August 2005

6. Use of photography & videography

Ladies Football 4 Fun from time to time record sessions and take photographs to use on social media. Consent will be gained prior to any filming or photographs taken and measures will be taken to ensure those that opt out are not included.

7. Abuse, Recognising it and what to do

Ladies Football 4 fun understands that it is not always easy to recognise a situation where abuse is occurring. Whilst it is not the responsibility of Ladies Football 4 Fun to decide that abuse is happening, it is our responsibility to act on any signs we may feel are a concern.

Some of the signs to look out for include:

- If someone else expresses concern about the welfare of a person
- Difficulty making friends
- Unexplained changes in behaviour
- Suspicious injuries
- Inconsistent reasons for injuries.
- Inappropriate sexual awareness
- Being prevented from socialising with others

- Sudden changes to financial status with unexplained behaviours.

If we believe an act of abuse is occurring relevant steps will be made to ensure the person found in the situation is protected. This will include but won't be limited to:

- Discussing the situation with the person
- Relevant local authorities will be informed
- We will always be honest with the person involved and therefore if we report a situation they will be informed this is happening.
- We will always be open and honest with anyone involved in any abuse, but also all information will be kept confidential
- Should we feel someone within the group is abusing another member they will be asked to leave and if necessary local authorities will be informed.



This policy was approved by the board of trustees - M.Howarth (Chair), L.Cox (Secretary) & C.Frampton (Treasurer), in June 2025 and will be reviewed in June 2026.



LADIES

FOOTBALL 4 FUN