



Welcome to Newcastle Dynamo Football Club

Developing football players with the highest of standards

Safeguarding Policy 2024/2025

Newcastle Dynamo (the club) is a child centric, a player centric football club. We are aware of our responsibility to safeguard every child. We are committed to providing a fun, safe environment to enable our children to play football. A child is anyone under the age of 18. We follow the FA's safeguarding children policies and procedures and work closely with the FA to ensure our safeguarding standards are both compliant and fit for purpose.

We are also aware of our responsibility to safeguard our volunteers and staff members.

The principles of the club's safeguarding children policy are:

- The child's welfare is always the most important consideration.
- Children and young people have a right to be protected from abuse, irrespective of their gender, race, age, disability, sexual orientation, faith or belief.
- Any allegations, observed, overheard, witnessed abuse will be dealt with under the clubs and the FA's guidelines and will be treated extremely seriously and quickly.
- Work in partnership with other organisations, parents, carers and the children themselves.

Best practice should be observed at all times by the football club's volunteers and staff. Any poor practice observed, reported will be dealt with and corrected by the football club. Every volunteer, staff member will be taught best practice principles and will be expected to adhere to them at all times.

Every volunteer and staff member is aware of their safeguarding responsibilities and how to report any issues, incidents and/or concerns.

Newcastle Dynamo FC is committed to protecting our children and young people from any form of abuse, including, physical, sexual, emotional, neglect and bullying. This includes our young referees, volunteers, helpers, who may be children themselves.

Parents and carers also have a responsibility to ensure that our children are protected by following the FA's respect guidance and the clubs policies around expected behaviour.

The club will follow the FA's recruitment guidance at all times, ensuring that any applicants are interviewed, assessed and vetted properly and references taken where deemed appropriate prior to being offered a position with the club.

The club will ensure that all volunteers, staff members (where required), hold valid qualifications, certification and an up to date enhanced DBS at all times. Should any such certifications, qualifications expire, the volunteer, staff member will be suspended from the clubs activities until they have renewed. The club will always work to the FA's guidelines and will take advice as required from them.

The club, in conjunction with the FA will ensure that any volunteer, staff member found guilty of abusive behaviour will be removed from the football club. Any parent, carer found guilty of abusive behaviour will also be removed from the football club. We have zero tolerance attitude towards abuse of any kind. The club will not accept any form of abuse towards our children, volunteers, staff members and officials.

The FA has a whistle-blowing policy which any adult or young person can use if they have any concerns about an adult involved in football. The FA's safeguarding team can be contacted on 0800 169 1863 or by emailing them at safeguarding@thefa.com. Alternatively, the Police can be contacted, Children's Social Care Services or the NSPCC. Childline is also available to anyone, the telephone number is 0800 1111.

Newcastle Dynamo FC has an appointed, qualified Club Welfare Officer as required by the FA. The Club Welfare Officer (Darren Richmond) can be contacted by telephone on 07837 379447 or by email at welfare.newcastledynamofc@outlook.com

The Club Welfare Officer should be the first point of contact for any welfare related concerns or queries. The Club Welfare Officer will engage with the County FA Welfare Officer. The club, through the Club Welfare Officer will ensure that awareness regarding safeguarding is prevalent within the club and will actively monitor the clubs activities to ensure that best practice is being adopted.

Bullying in football will not be tolerated by the club and will be taken extremely seriously, should any bullying of children be reported, observed, overheard, witnessed. The FA has published its RESPECT guidelines and codes of conduct, which can be found by visiting the website <https://www.thefa.com/get-involved/respect>

We, as a club, expect everyone, children, parents, carers, officials and our volunteers and staff members to be aware of these codes and to adhere to them at all times. Any breaches of these codes of conduct will be reported to the FA/the League as deemed necessary. This may lead to sanctions and/or fines being issued to the club and/or individuals.

Any welfare concerns should be reported to the Club Welfare Officer. The Club Welfare Officer will deal with the matter and will engage the County FA Welfare Officer as required.

If you have a more serious concern (child abuse, suspected child abuse) and you cannot contact the Club Welfare Officer, please contact the County FA Welfare Officer, the Police and/or Children's Social Care Services. If you believe a child is in immediate risk of being abused, contact the Police.

If a child has suffered abuse and needs immediate medical treatment, they must be taken to hospital or an ambulance called if serious, stipulating that there is a child protection concern. You should let the Club Welfare Officer know as soon as you can. If the Club Welfare Officer is not available/unreachable, the FA Safeguarding Team can be contacted on 0800 169 1863 or by email at safeguarding@thea.com

The Police can be contacted on 999 and the 24Hr NPCC helpline can be contacted on 0808 800 5000, by text to 88858 or by email at help@nspcc.org.uk

The FA's Safeguarding Children Policy and Procedures can be found at <https://thefa.com/football-rules-governance/safeguarding>

The Northumberland County Football Association Safeguarding Team can be contacted on 0191 2700 700 or by email at safeguarding@northumberland.com

The FA's Safeguarding Children general enquiries line can be contacted on 0845 210 8080.