



## **Child Safeguarding Statement**

Ballincollig AFC in accordance with the FAI Rulebook, Child Welfare and Safeguarding policy, other policies, procedures and our legislative requirements have agreed this Child Safeguarding Statement which is binding on all members.

Ballincollig AFC is a Football Club operating on a local scale in the Cork City Suburb of Ballincollig, it's aim is to provide sporting activities and opportunities for children and young people through participation in the club. The Club offers footballing skills to children, young people and adults, aging from 6 to over 35.

Ballincollig AFC recruits over 40 volunteers with over 350 players (including those in the Academy). Ballincollig AFC is committed to the safeguarding of children and by working under the guidance of our Safeguarding Policies and Procedures, employed by our members and volunteers working with our children and young people, throughout the Club. The ethos is to enable a safe and fun environment for children, young people and adults to participate and enjoy sport fully.

## **Principles to Safeguard Children from Harm**

This statement recognises that in accordance with legislation and the requirements of FAI Rulebook, FAI Child Welfare and Safeguarding policy, other FAI policies and procedures that the welfare and interests of children are paramount in all circumstances.

Ballincollig AFC is established on a number of core principles:

the needs of the Child, integrity and respect, environment, equality, fair play, welfare and safety in football.





These underlying principles underpin our rules, policies and procedures to ensure that when Children participate in our activities, they do so, as far as is practicable, in a safe and enjoyable environment.

## **Risk Assessment**

In preparing this statement Ballincollig AFC have completed a Risk Assessment of the potential risk of harm to children when they are participating in any of our games and attending our activities. The risks were reviewed under the following headings; Club and Coaching Practices; Complaints & Discipline; Reporting Procedures; Use of Facilities; Recruitment; Communications; and General Risk of Harm. The table below lists the area of risk identified and the list of procedures and policies for managing these risks:

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Risk Identified	Procedures/Policies in place	QR Code shortcut
Risk of harm including assault, ill treatment or neglect of a child in a manner that seriously affects or is likely to health, development or welfare or sexual abuse of child	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•FAI Child Welfare and Safeguarding policy</li> <li>•FAI Concern-Complaint policy</li> <li>•FAI Rulebook</li> <li>•Safeguarding training</li> <li>• <i>(add any additional policies, procedures or code of Conducts)</i></li> </ul>	1.FAI Child Welfare & Safeguarding Policy  
Risk of harm of abuse when hosting an activity and or an away trip	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•FAI Child Welfare and Safeguarding policy</li> <li>•FAI Concern-Complaint policy</li> <li>•Safeguarding training</li> </ul>	2. FAI Concern-Complaint Policy  
Risk of harm of online abuse through social media	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•FAI Child Welfare and Safeguarding policy</li> <li>• FAI Social Media policy</li> <li>• <i>(add any additional policies, procedures or code of Conducts)</i></li> </ul>	3. FAI Social Media Policy  
Bullying of a child	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•FAI Child Welfare and Safeguarding policy</li> <li>• FAI Concern-Complaint policy</li> <li>• FAI Social Media policy</li> <li>• <i>(add any additional policies, procedures or code of Conducts)</i></li> </ul>	4. FAI Rulebook  

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Ballincollig AFC's Child Safeguarding Statement has been developed in line with requirements under the Children First Act 2015, (the Children First: National Guidance for the Protection and Welfare of Children (2017), and Tusla's Child Safeguarding: A Guide for Policy, Procedure and Practice). Each Football Association of Ireland affiliated Club/League publishes their own Club Child Safeguarding Statement.

Ballincollig AFC has the following procedures in place as part of our Safeguarding Policies:

- Procedures for the management of allegations of abuse or misconduct by staff or volunteers against a child availing of our activities;
  - Procedures for the safe recruitment and selection of staff and volunteers to work with children in our activities;
- Procedures for provision of and access to child safeguarding training and information, including the identification of the occurrence of harm;
- Procedure for reporting of child protection or welfare concerns to Statutory Authorities;
- Procedures for maintaining a list of the persons in the relevant service who are mandated;
- Procedure for appointing a relevant person.

**All procedures/policies listed are available on request. Policies and the Rulebook are available on [www.fai.ie/domestic](http://www.fai.ie/domestic)**

Ballincollig AFC recognise that implementation is an ongoing process. Our Club is committed to the implementation of this Child Safeguarding Statement and the accompanying child welfare and safeguarding policies and procedures that support our intention to keep children safe from harm while participating in our activities. This Child Safeguarding Statement will be reviewed on 01/06/21 in line with our AGM or as soon as practicable after there has been material change in any matter to which the statement refers.

**Under FAI guidelines as Chairperson for the club, Gerardene McNamara is the Designated Liaison person for Ballincollig AFC, Contactable on 085 244 7161 or: [ballincolligafsec@gmail.com](mailto:ballincolligafsec@gmail.com).**