



Elneny FC

Safeguarding Children and Vulnerable Adults Policy & Procedure

Date to be implemented from:	01/09/2023
Date to be reviewed by:	31/08/2024
Version No:	2
Lead responsibility:	William Barrett-Bell

Distribution to:	
All Staff	✓
Volunteers	✓
Players	✓
Parents (if players under 18)	✓
Other (please specify)	✓ Anyone Instructed By Elneny FC

Key Contacts:	
William Barrett-Bell Safeguarding Lead	07540 723372

This Policy supersedes any previous Policy of this name or instructions that pre-date this edition.



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Elneny FC acknowledge their responsibility to safeguard the welfare of every child and young person who has been entrusted to its care and is committed to working to provide a safe environment for all members. A child or young person under the age of 18 engaged in any club football activity.

We subscribe to The Football Association's (the FA Safeguarding Children Policy and Procedures) and endorse and adopt the policy statement contained in that document.

The key principles of the Elneny FC and The FA Safeguarding Children Policy are that:

- the child's welfare is, and must always be the paramount consideration
- all children and young people have a right to be protected from abuse regardless of their age, gender, disability, race, sexual orientation, faith or belief
- all suspicions and allegations of abuse will be taken seriously and responded to swiftly and appropriately
- working in partnership with other organisations, children and young people and their parents/carers is essential.

We acknowledge that every child or young person who plays or participates in football should be able to take part in an enjoyable and safe environment and be protected from poor practice and abuse. Elneny FC recognise that this is the responsibility of every adult involved in our organisation.

Elneny FC has a role to play in safeguarding the welfare of all children and young people by protecting them from physical, sexual or emotional harm and from neglect or bullying. It is noted and accepted that The Football Association's Safeguarding Children Regulations (see The FA Handbook) applies to everyone in football whether in a paid or voluntary capacity.

We endorse and adopt The FA's Responsible Recruitment guidelines for recruiting staff and volunteers and we will:

- specify what the role is and what tasks it involves
- request identification documents
- as a minimum meet and chat with the applicant(s) and where possible interview people before appointing them.
- ask for and follow up with 2 references before appointing someone
- where eligible require an FA accepted Enhanced Criminal Record Check (CRC) with Barring List Check in line with current FA policy and regulations.



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All Elneny FC staff working in eligible roles, with children and young people – such as coaches are required to hold and in date enhanced DBS with Barring List check as part of responsible recruitment practice.

If there are concerns regarding the appropriateness of an individual who is already involved or who has approached us to become part of Elneny FC, guidance will be sought from The Football Association. It is noted and accepted that The FA will consider the relevance and significance of the information obtained via the CRC Process and that all suitability decisions will be made in accordance with legislation and in the best interests of children and young people.

It is accepted that The FA aims to prevent people with a history of relevant and significant offending from having contact with children or young people and the opportunity to influence policies or practice with children or young people. This is to prevent direct sexual or physical harm to children and to minimise the risk of 'grooming' within football.

Elneny FC supports The FA's Whistle Blowing Policy. Any adult or young person with concerns about an adult in a position of trust with football can 'whistle blow' by contacting The FA Safeguarding Team on 0800 169 1863, by writing to The FA Case Manager at The Football Association, Wembley Stadium, PO Box 1966, London SW1P 9EQ, by emailing Safeguarding@TheFA.com or alternatively by going direct to the Police, Children's Social Care or the NSPCC.

Elneny FC encourages everyone to know about The FA's Whistle Blowing Policy and to utilise it if necessary.

Elneny FC has appointed a Designated Safeguarding Lead (Club Welfare Officer) in line with The FA's role profile. The post holder (details below) has completed Welfare Officer training provided by The FA and/or County FA. The Designated Safeguarding Lead is the first point of contact for all club members regarding concerns about the welfare of any child or young person. The Club Welfare Officer will liaise directly with the County FA (CFA) Welfare Officer and will be familiar with the procedures for referring any concerns. They will also play a proactive role in increasing awareness of Respect, poor practice and abuse amongst club members.

Elneny FC acknowledge and endorse The FA's identification of bullying as a category of abuse. Bullying of any kind is not acceptable at our centres. If bullying does occur, all players or parents/carers should be able to feel confident that incidents will be dealt with promptly. Serious incidents will be reported to the designated Safeguarding Lead.

We abide by the principles laid out in the FA's Respect codes of conduct. Elneny FC have clear actions it will take regarding repeated or serious misconduct at club level and acknowledges the



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possibility of potential sanctions which may be implemented by the County FA in more serious circumstances.

Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility if you are worried about a child it is important that you report your concerns – no action is not an option.

1. If you are worried about a child then you need to report your concerns to the Club Welfare Officer.
2. If the issue is one of poor practice the Club Welfare Officer will either:
 - deal with the matter themselves or
 - seek advice from the CFA Welfare Officer/Local Authority Designated Officer
3. If the concern is more serious – possible child abuse, contact the Police and/or children's services, the matter may also be reported to the CFA Welfare Officer if appropriate.

1. If the child needs immediate medical treatment take them to a hospital or call an ambulance.
2. If at any time you are not able to contact your Club Welfare Officer or the matter is clearly serious then you can either:
 - contact the Police or Children's Social Care
 - call the NSPCC - 24 hour Helpline for advice on 0808 800 5000 or text 88858 or email

help@nspcc.org.uk

- contact The FA Safeguarding Team on 0800 1691863 or Safeguarding@TheFA.com

Further advice on Safeguarding Children matters can be obtained from:

Elneny FC Designated Safeguarding Lead and Welfare Officer:

William Barrett-Bell (t) 07540 723372, (e) elneny-FC@outlook.com

Or from

- www.TheFA.com/football-rules-governance/safeguarding
- Emailing – Safeguarding@TheFA.com
- The FA Safeguarding Children general enquiry line 0845 210 8080

The FA's Safeguarding Children Policy and Procedures are available via – www.TheFA.com/football-rules-governance/safeguarding