



## **North Herts Knights Basketball Club Child Welfare and Safe-Guarding Policy**

North Herts Knights acknowledges the duty of care to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and is committed to ensuring safeguarding practice reflects statutory responsibilities, government guidance and complies with best practice and Herts Basketball Association in conjunction with Basketball England requirements.

The policy recognises that the welfare and interests of children are paramount in all circumstances. It aims to ensure that regardless of age, ability or disability, gender reassignment, race, religion or belief, sex or sexual orientation, socio-economic background, all children.

- have a positive and enjoyable experience of sport at North Herts Knights Basketball Club in a safe and child centred environment.
- are protected from abuse whilst participating in North Herts Knights Basketball Club or outside of the activity.

North Herts Knights Basketball Club acknowledges that some children, including disabled children and young people or those from ethnic minority communities, can be particularly vulnerable to abuse and we accept the responsibility to take reasonable and appropriate steps to ensure their welfare.

As part of our safeguarding policy North Herts Knights Basketball Club will

- promote and prioritise the safety and wellbeing of children and young people.
- ensure everyone understands their roles and responsibilities in respect of safeguarding and is provided with appropriate learning opportunities to recognise, identify and respond to signs of abuse, neglect and other safeguarding concerns relating to children and young people.
- ensure appropriate action is taken in the event of incidents/concerns of abuse and support provided to the individual/s who raise or disclose the concern.
- ensure that confidential, detailed and accurate records of all safeguarding concerns are maintained and securely stored.
- prevent the employment/deployment of unsuitable individuals.
- ensure robust safeguarding arrangements and procedures are in operation.
- all coaches, parent helpers and committee members who come into regular contact with children from North Herts Knights Basketball Club are Safeguarding Children certificated and have current DBS cover.

The policy and procedures will be widely promoted and are mandatory for everyone involved in North Herts Knights Basketball Club. Failure to comply with the policy and procedures will be addressed without delay and may ultimately result in dismissal/exclusion from the organisation.



## Reporting

North Herts Knights Basketball Club has in place a robust reporting structure should there be a requirement for an incident or concern to be raised.

Incidents or concerns can be raised via the North Herts Knights Basketball Club committee, coaches and safeguard certificated parent helpers.

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However, North Herts Knights Basketball Club acknowledge that such incidents or concerns may need to be reported in confidence and as such have in place a child welfare officer, who is not directly involved in the day to day running of the club, coaching or in direct contact with children on a daily basis.

Child Welfare Officer contact details:

- Name: **Michelle Witham**
- Email Address: **michellewitham1@hotmail.co.uk**

Monitoring The policy will be reviewed a year after development and then every three years, or in the following circumstances:

- changes in legislation and/or government guidance
- as required by the Local Safeguarding Children Board, UK Sport and/or Home Country Sports Councils and Herts Basketball Association in conjunction with Basketball England
- as a result of any other significant change or event.

Last reviewed: 1<sup>st</sup> August 2023

Next Review: 1<sup>st</sup> August 2024 unless changes are required as stated above under the monitoring policy