**VULNERABLE ADULTS POLICY**

Fylde Coast Soccer (FCS) has a professional duty to provide children and vulnerable adults with appropriate safety and protection. As the welfare of the child/vulnerable adult is paramount, we are committed to providing safe equipment and facilities so that children/vulnerable adults may participate in courses/programmes in a secure environment. Additionally, we promote ethical behaviour, providing children/vulnerable adults with a sense of being valued. On this basis, we aim to ensure safe recruitment practices are always followed, to establish the suitability of personnel to work with children and/or vulnerable adults.

It is ultimately the responsibility of the Head Welfare Officer, Mike McGarvey to ensure that this policy is published and accessible to all personnel, candidates and any relevant third parties.

In order to provide safety, protection and security to children/vulnerable adults throughout our operations, we will adhere to our child/vulnerable adult protection policy/statement and aim to:

* Protect all children and vulnerable adults from abuse, whatever their age, culture, disability, gender, language, ethnic origin, religious beliefs or sexuality.
* Raise awareness of child and vulnerable adult protection issues and promote good practice
* Conduct risk assessments to minimise potential hazards to children’s and vulnerable adults’ welfare.
* Provide support to candidates who have been abused and act proactively by preventing any similar incidents through risk assessment. In such cases we will refer to the FCS Welfare Officer, Mike McGarvey.
* Ensure all personnel fully understand their responsibilities and are provided with the appropriate training/regular updates of the legislation.

In achieving our policy aims and being proactive, we have developed procedures related to the recruitment of personnel and how allegations of child/vulnerable adult abuse should be dealt with. In light of this, we implement safe recruitment practices, in checking the suitability of personnel to work with children and vulnerable adults. Please see: FCS Safer Recruitment Policy.

All members of personnel who work with children and vulnerable adults are required to adhere to this policy.

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| Centre personnel/candidates/individuals identifying possible abuse must report the allegation to: |
| Mike McGarvey  Fylde Coast Soccer  41 Manor Rd  Fleetwood  FY7 7LJ  fyldecoastsoccer@gmail.com |

Allegations will be taken seriously and dealt with as soon as practicable, in line with the recognised centre’s child/vulnerable adult protection policy.

The Welfare Officer and Club Committee are also responsible for conducting any investigation and demonstrating the results if the child/vulnerable abuse is suspected to be committed by a member of staff. Throughout this procedure, records will be maintained and kept securely and confidentially, separately from the candidates’ file.