



Nether Green FC

Safeguarding Policy

1- Nether Green Football Club acknowledges its responsibility to safeguard the welfare of every child and young person under the age of 18 engaged in any club football activity. We recognise that those aged 16-17 years of age are legally defined as children and must therefore be appropriately protected. We are committed to providing a safe, inclusive and enjoyable environment for all members and subscribe to the FA's Safeguarding Children Policy and Procedures.

2- The key principles of the policy are:

- The child's welfare is the paramount consideration.
- All children and young people have the right to be protected from abuse, regardless of age, sex, gender identity, disability, race, nationality, ethnic background, colour, sexual orientation, marital or family status, religion or belief, pregnancy and maternity, socioeconomic background, or any other status.
- All suspicions and allegations of abuse will be taken seriously and dealt with swiftly and appropriately.
- Working in partnership with children, young people, their parents/carers, and other organisations is essential.

We believe every child participating in football should do so in a safe and enjoyable environment, with opportunities to develop to the best of their ability, and to be protected from poor practice or abuse. Nether Green FC recognises that this is the responsibility of every adult involved in our club including parents/carers of our players.

We are committed to ensuring that all young people have the right to take part, be heard and have their views, experiences, and opinions respected.

3- Every adult at Nether Green FC has a role to play in safeguarding the welfare of all children by protecting them from physical, sexual or emotional harm, neglect, and bullying. The FA's Safeguarding Children Regulations apply to every single adult involved in football at Nether Green FC.

4- We endorse and adopt the FA's responsible recruitment guidelines. All managers, coaches, assistant coaches, parent helpers, and executive committee members must hold an in-date FA-accepted Enhanced DBS check in line with The FA's Safeguarding Children Policy and Regulations.

If concerns arise about the suitability of an individual already involved or seeking to become involved with Nether Green FC, we will seek guidance from the County FA Designated Safeguarding Manager Sarah Pridmore on 07534 442015 or by emailing sarah.pridmore2@sheffieldfa.com.

We fully support The FA's commitment to preventing individuals with relevant and significant offending history from working with or influencing children or young people in football. This is to prevent sexual or physical harm to children and minimise the risk of football being used in the

grooming of children.

5- Nether Green FC supports the FA's **Whistle Blowing Policy**. Any adult or young person with concerns about an adult in a position of trust in football can contact the FA Safeguarding Team on 0800 1691863 or 0114 2615500, or by emailing Safeguarding@theFA.com, or by contacting the Police, Children's Social Care or the NSPCC directly.

6- Nether Green FC has appointed a **Club Welfare Officer** (CWO) Milena De Felice (Tel: 07456 215 649; Email: mlenade@yahoo.com). The CWO will be involved in welfare training provided by the County FA and will liaise directly with the County Welfare Officer (CFA) – Sarah Pridmore. The Club Welfare Officer is the first point of contact for all club members regarding the welfare of any child or young person.

7- Nether Green FC endorses the FA's identification of bullying as a form of abuse and none of any kind is acceptable at our club. We have an Anti-Bullying Policy accessible to parents/carers and players. All incidents will be taken seriously and reported to the CWO. Serious cases may be referred to the County FA.

8- Nether Green FC has adopted **RESPECT** codes of conduct for Players, Parents/Spectators, Officials, and Coaches. The club has clear procedures for dealing with repeated or serious misconduct, which may involve County FA sanctions.

9- Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility. If you are worried about a child, you must report your concerns – no action is not an option:

- Report your concerns to the Club Welfare Officer.
- For poor practice, consult the CWO, who may seek guidance from the County FA.
- For urgent medical treatment, call 999 and inform the CWO, who will inform the CFA and tell them what action you have taken.
- If a child is in imminent danger, call the Police on 999 and **do not let them out of your sight**.
- For serious concerns, contact the Police or Children's Social Service* or call the NSPCC Helpline (Monday to Friday 8am to 10pm and 9am to 6pm at weekends) for advice on 0808 800500 or text 88858 or email help@nspcc.org.uk The NSPCC is a child protection charity and will refer cases to the police or Children and Young People's service.

* To report a new concern when you feel that a child is suffering or at risk of suffering harm, please ring the **Sheffield Children's Social Care Safeguarding Hub on 01142 273 4855**.

Further information on Safeguarding Children Matters can be obtained from www.TheFA.com/football-rules-governance/safeguarding

Email – Safeguarding@TheFA.com

The FA Safeguarding Children general enquiry line tel: 0845 2108080

NG CWO

Milena De Felice on 0745 6215649

Email: mlenade@yahoo.com

Sheffield and Hallamshire County Welfare Officer

Sarah Pridmore on 07534 442015

Email sarah.pridmore2@sheffieldfa.com

NB:

- Every team must have a first aid kit at all training sessions and games.
- Every session must be attended by at least two adults with current Enhanced DBS checks.
- Every team must have a minimum of two coaches, one of whom must be a qualified first aider.
- A **DEFIBILLATOR** is located at the end of the corridor in the changing room on the right, right wall as you go in. It is unlocked, suitable for adults and children, and gives verbal instructions. **The changing rooms door must be unlocked and open at every training session and game even if it is not used, to allow immediate access to the defibrillator.**

In the unlikely event the club's defibrillator is unusable the nearest one on Saturdays is The Little Gem Café (opposite to the changing rooms) and on Sundays it is on the rear exterior wall of the Hammer and Pincers Pub at Bents Green by the traffic lights. You will need to ring a number on the cabinet and they give you a code to open it.

In the UK, 12 fit young people under the age of 35 die every week from undiagnosed sudden cardiac arrest. It most often happens whilst engaged in sport. If any player presents with chest pains do not ignore it. If it's severe, ring an ambulance, otherwise stop them playing and inform their parents/carers immediately.

More info: Cardiac Risk in the Young www.c-r-y.org.uk, they offer free ECG screenings throughout the UK.

It is the responsibility of the coach to locate the nearest defibrillator at training sessions and games. Go to www.bhf.org.uk to use their national defibrillator network.

'Football is a team sport, and safeguarding is a team responsibility. Every adult in our club has a duty to ensure that all children are safe, respected, and supported while playing the game they love.'

Document last reviewed: MDF 29/07/2025