



ACCREDITED
PART OF ENGLAND FOOTBALL



NUNNERY WOOD FC

Safeguarding Policy

(Alongside our Club Charter and Club Constitution)

1. Policy Statement

Nunnery Wood FC is committed to providing a safe, positive and enjoyable environment for everyone involved in football. The welfare of children, young people and adults at risk is always the Club's primary concern.

The Club is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of all participants and expects every volunteer, coach, official, committee member and player to share this commitment.

Nunnery Wood FC will work in accordance with The Football Association (The FA) safeguarding policies, procedures and best practice, together with all relevant UK legislation.

2. Scope

This policy applies to:

- Youth teams
- Adult teams
- Coaches
- Assistant coaches
- Volunteers
- Club officials
- Committee members
- Team managers
- Referees operating on behalf of the Club
- Parents and carers attending Club activities
- Anyone acting on behalf of Nunnery Wood FC



3. Our Commitment

Nunnery Wood FC will:

- Put the welfare of children and adults at risk first.
- Create a safe, inclusive and welcoming football environment.
- Treat everyone fairly and with dignity and respect.
- Promote equality, diversity and inclusion.
- Take all safeguarding concerns seriously.
- Respond quickly and appropriately to concerns or disclosures.
- Work with statutory agencies where necessary.
- Ensure safeguarding responsibilities are understood by everyone involved in the Club.

4. Safeguarding Principles

The Club believes everyone has the right to:

- Enjoy football safely.
- Be protected from abuse, neglect, exploitation and discrimination.
- Be listened to.
- Be treated with respect.
- Participate in football regardless of age, disability, gender, race, religion or belief, sexual orientation or background.

5. Roles and Responsibilities

Club Committee

The committee will:

- Promote safeguarding throughout the Club.
- Ensure this policy is implemented.
- Support the Club Welfare Officer.
- Review safeguarding arrangements annually.
- Ensure appropriate action is taken where safeguarding concerns arise.



Club Welfare Officer (CWO)

The Club will appoint an FA-trained Club Welfare Officer.

The Welfare Officer will:

- Be the first point of contact for safeguarding concerns.
 - Support players, parents and volunteers.
 - Liaise with The FA and statutory agencies where required.
 - Maintain confidential safeguarding records.
 - Promote safer working practices.
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Coaches and Volunteers

Everyone working with players must:

- Put welfare before winning.
 - Behave as positive role models.
 - Follow The FA Code of Conduct.
 - Report concerns immediately.
 - Complete safeguarding training where required.
 - Hold an appropriate DBS check where eligibility requires it.
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Parents and Carers

Parents are expected to:

- Support Club safeguarding values.
- Treat everyone respectfully.
- Raise concerns appropriately.
- Promote positive behaviour on the sidelines.



Players

Players should:

- Respect teammates, opponents and officials.
- Speak to a trusted adult if something worries them.
- Report bullying or inappropriate behaviour.
- Help create a positive football environment.

6. Safer Recruitment

Nunnery Wood FC is committed to safer recruitment.

Where appropriate, the Club will:

- Obtain references.
- Carry out DBS checks where required.
- Verify identity.
- Ensure safeguarding training is completed.
- Provide induction for new volunteers.
- Ensure individuals understand safeguarding responsibilities before working with players.

7. Codes of Conduct

All members must follow the relevant FA Code of Conduct.

The Club expects everyone to:

- Respect others.
- Use appropriate language.
- Never abuse, intimidate or discriminate.
- Promote fair play.
- Behave responsibly both on and off the pitch.
- Follow safeguarding procedures.

Failure to comply may result in disciplinary action.



8. Good Practice

The Club encourages:

- Open communication.
- Appropriate supervision.
- Safe coaching environments.
- Appropriate physical contact only when necessary.
- Professional boundaries.
- Positive behaviour management.
- Inclusive participation.

9. Unacceptable Practice

The following behaviour is unacceptable:

- Bullying.
- Emotional abuse.
- Physical abuse.
- Sexual abuse.
- Neglect.
- Grooming.
- Discrimination.
- Harassment.
- Inappropriate relationships.
- Humiliating or degrading treatment.
- Offensive language.
- Online abuse or cyberbullying.

10. Online Safety

The Club recognises the importance of digital safeguarding.

Club representatives should:

- Use approved communication methods.



- Keep communications professional.
- Avoid private messaging children unless following Club procedures.
- Obtain consent where appropriate.
- Protect personal information.
- Report online concerns immediately.

Photographs and videos should only be taken in accordance with Club procedures and with appropriate consent where required.

11. Reporting Concerns

Anyone with a safeguarding concern should:

1. Ensure the person is safe.
2. Record the facts accurately.
3. Contact the Club Welfare Officer immediately.
4. Contact emergency services if someone is in immediate danger.
5. Refer concerns to The FA or statutory agencies where appropriate.

No concern is too small to report.

The Club will:

- Take every concern seriously.
- Maintain confidentiality.
- Share information only where necessary.
- Keep accurate records.
- Cooperate fully with investigations.

12. Poor Practice

Examples include:

- Inappropriate language.
- Favouritism.
- Being alone unnecessarily with a child.



- Inappropriate social media contact.
- Ignoring safeguarding procedures.

Poor practice will be addressed promptly and may lead to disciplinary action.

13. Whistleblowing

Anyone concerned about the behaviour of a volunteer, coach, official or committee member should report concerns immediately.

Individuals raising genuine safeguarding concerns will be supported and treated fairly.

14. Equality, Diversity and Inclusion

Nunnery Wood FC welcomes everyone regardless of:

- Age
- Disability
- Race
- Religion or belief
- Sex
- Sexual orientation
- Gender reassignment
- Marriage or civil partnership
- Pregnancy or maternity

Discrimination, harassment or victimisation will not be tolerated.

15. Confidentiality

Safeguarding information will be:

- Stored securely.
- Shared only with those who need to know.
- Managed in accordance with UK data protection legislation.
- Retained only for as long as necessary.



16. Training

The Club will ensure that relevant personnel:

- Complete FA safeguarding training.
 - Renew training as required.
 - Understand safeguarding responsibilities.
 - Receive ongoing safeguarding updates.
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17. Policy Review

This policy will be reviewed:

- Annually;
 - Following significant legislative or FA changes;
 - Following any safeguarding incident where learning is identified.
 - And used inline with our Club Charter and Club Constitution.
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This policy will be made available to all members, volunteers, coaches, officials, parents and players and will be reviewed annually to ensure continued compliance with current FA safeguarding requirements.