

# Child protection policy

*The Club acknowledges its responsibility to safeguard the welfare of every child or young person who is entrusted to our care. A child or young person is anyone under the age of 18 years.*

The Club is committed to providing a safe, friendly, enjoyable environment for all its members engaged in any club activity. This is the responsibility of every adult within the Club to protect them from poor practices and abuse. Our role is to safeguard the welfare of all the children and young people by protecting them from physical, sexual, or emotional harm, neglect and bullying.

We subscribe to the Football Association's current child protection and best practice policies and procedures. We also endorse and adopt their views into and in conjunction with this document.

The key principles of the combined document are that.

- The Childs' 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, physical health, culture, language, racial origin, religious beliefs, or sexual orientation.
- All suspicion and allegations of abuse will be taken seriously and responded to swiftly and appropriately.
- Working in partnership with other organizations, the children and young people themselves, their parents / carers is fundamentally essential.

All current AFC Tickton personnel with direct access to children and young people must be cleared under the umbrella of the Football Association Criminal Records Bureau Unit. If there are any concerns over the appropriateness of an individual the disclosure and decision of acceptability, and suitability must be made in the best interests of the child, or young persons

The Club will appoint a Club Designated Child Welfare Officer to oversee the certification of all personnel who have direct access to children, and young people. The C. D. C. W. O. will ensure that all certification has been correctly carried out, and keep an up to date register of all such personnel.

The Club will appoint a Children's Welfare Officer in line with the F A's role profile, and ensure they keep up to date with all current qualifications.

The Club will liaise, directly, with the appropriate Leagues & County FA Child Protection Officers, under the current rules, and procedures.

We also acknowledge, and endorse, the FA identification of bullying, both verbal and physical, as a category of abuse. If anyone knows of / or suspects that bullying is occurring they should promptly report it to the C W O. The C W O will then take advice from the various agencies that are there to help.

The Club have implemented Codes of Conduct for all various members of the Club; these five (5) codes can be found on the download page of the Club web site.

In order to validate these Codes of Conduct, the Club has a clear mandate to deal with any misconduct at, firstly, Club level, and acknowledges the fact of the possibility of disciplinary action that may be implemented by other and more appropriate authorities. All members must read these codes of conduct, and be aware that action may be taken against them.

The Club Designated Officer and Child Welfare Officer can be found on the Officials page of the Club web site. Further advice can be obtained from the links on the Links page of the same web site.

**The Club web site is -**

**[www.afctickton.com](http://www.afctickton.com)**