

WILTSHIRE FA SAFEGUARDING INFORMATION



ENGLAND
FOOTBALL

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ABOUT US

Wiltshire FA is the not-for-profit, governing body of football in Wiltshire. We grow participation, promote diversity and regulate the sport for everyone to enjoy.

With 1000 teams and in excess of 19,000 players of all ages and abilities playing in the County, Wiltshire FA is proud to support football for all.

Our role is to grow participation, promote diversity and regulate the game for everyone to enjoy, so whether you're a player, parent, club official or referee we want to support and continue to improve your football experience in the county.

EDUCATE DEVELOP SUPPORT

These principles have driven Wiltshire FA's work since it was founded in 1884.

We offer professional training to enhance the standard and skills of the football workforce and develop the next generation of coaches, referees, medics and administrators. Football goes far beyond just playing.

Everyone's football journey is continuous and shaped by experiences we offer learning opportunities to unlock potential, support journeys and encourage lifelong links to our

We deliver services and initiatives to develop the game and inspire people to take part in football, making sure there are opportunities For All.

We believe football is more than just football. We believe it can unite communities, build relationships and open pathways.

We offer administration and support to players, clubs and leagues to ensure our game is positive and inclusive.

We believe our game should be played with **RESPECT.**

WHAT IS SAFEGUARDING?

To protect the health, well-being and human rights of individuals, which allows people, especially children, young people and adults at risk to live free from abuse, harm and neglect.

We all have the right to feel safe. Our role in football is to ensure we report our concerns and work collectively to ensure we are doing all we can to keep football safe in our community.



WHO IS CONSIDERED A CHILD OR A YOUNG PERSON?

A child or young person is anyone that is under the age of 18 years.



This policy is for members to learn more about:

- What we do at Wiltshire County FA to keep young people safe and well
- Where children, parents or carers can go if they have concerns
- What we do if we are worried about a child's safety or well-being.

The County FA has comprehensive safeguarding procedures which meet the requirements of:

- The FAs Safeguarding operating standard for County FAs
- The Children Act 1989 & 2004
- Working Together to Safeguard Children 2018.

The County FA works within a multi-agency environment, this includes The FA Safeguarding teams, LADOs in both Wiltshire and Swindon. We work collectively to achieve the same goal.

CREATING A SAFE ENVIRONMENT

We aim to create an environment where all our staff and participants feel safe welcomed and listened to.

To do this we:

- Have robust safeguarding policies in place that apply to the entire County FA and partner clubs
- Have a specialist team whose role it is to ensure all allegations are taken seriously and fully investigated
- Ensure staff working with young people have the training they need
- Require all County FA staff and volunteers to follow a code of conduct
- Make sure we foster an open environment where staff and young people feel comfortable to report worries and concerns
- Actively listen to young people to ensure their views are taken into account.



WHO IS RESPONSIBLE FOR SAFEGUARDING YOUNG PEOPLE AT WILTSHIRE FA?

EVERYONE.

All staff working with children and young people at Wiltshire FA are trained to respond to safeguarding issues concerning the young people they work with.

We also have a designated officer that is responsible for safeguarding.

The Designated Officer is a specialist who is trained to manage any issues relating to children's safety and well-being. They also have a responsibility to make sure that everyone at the County FA is equipped and confident in their role to safeguard young people - this includes ongoing training for all staff.

Designated Safeguarding Officer

Maria.Lai@wiltshirefa.com & Blair.Keltie@wiltshirefa.com
01793486047

If you cannot make contact you should call the NSPCC and report to the County FA or FA using the following reporting mechanisms.

County specific e-mail - **saferguarding@wiltshirefa.com**

Direct to The FA - **saferguarding@thefa.com | 0800 1691863**

Additional helpful contact numbers:

NSPCC 24-hour helpline - **0808 800 5000 | help@nspcc.org.uk**

NSPCC 24-hour helpline for those with hearing difficulties - **0800 056 0566**

ChildLine - **0800 1111**

WHAT INFORMATION DOES WILTSHIRE COUNTY FA HOLD ABOUT MY CHILD?

Children and young people have varying contact with The County FA. The data collected from children and young people is dependent on the activity undertaken.

If your child is attending training sessions or events at Green Lane, then their CLUB will hold information such as: name, address, date of birth and emergency contact details on the Whole Game System. If further details are requested from the County, this will be in consultation with a young player's parent or carer and will be aligned to the activity being undertaken.



CONSENT TO IMAGERY

At times, The County FA may wish to take photographs or videos of players to celebrate football events. We follow The FA guidelines on the capture and use of images.

We understand that in some instances the use of photography and video imagery can present difficulties or risk for varying reasons. Therefore, Wiltshire FA asks for your consent to take and use images or video of your child. Where specific arrangements need to be made regarding images, decisions are made in consultation with a child's parent or carer.



WILTSHIRE COUNTY FA STORE ALL PERSONAL INFORMATION AND IMAGERY IN LINE WITH DATA PROTECTION LAW. THIS MEANS THAT ALL INFORMATION IS:

- Proportionate and necessary
- Collected with the young person's (where applicable) or parent/carers consent
- Stored safely and securely by Wiltshire County FA
- Deleted within correct time scales

VOLUNTEERS AND EXTERNAL PARTIES

Wiltshire FA mandate a 3rd party agreement is signed and completed before any activity can take place. This agreement is the responsibility of the Centre Manager to ensure full compliance at Green Lane.

WHAT IS ABUSE?

Abuse describes any action that causes harm to a child or young person. Abuse can occur in any setting and be carried out by adults or young people.

Whether experienced over a long period of time, or an isolated incident, abuse can have a significant impact on children's health and well-being.

The signs of child abuse aren't always obvious. But there can be behaviours that children display that might indicate that they are experiencing abuse. Sometimes, physical signs of abuse might be noticeable - however it's important to remember that this is not always the case. Below are some of the signs and indicators that could suggest a child is at risk, or is experiencing abuse.

Not all children experiencing abuse will display these physical and behavioural signs. Some may experience a combination of behaviours that change over time. Other children may try to hide any physical signs that something is happening to them. You might notice some of the signs but feel unsure about whether abuse is going on. It's not your responsibility to investigate abuse. You can get advice and support about the next steps to take to keep the child safe.

If you ever worry that a child or young person is at risk of being harmed or is experiencing abuse - take action by reporting your concerns to Children's Services. Or you can make contact with the County FA Designated Safeguarding Officer. The Designated Safeguarding Officer can support you to make a referral to the appropriate services to keep the child safe - **no matter where the abuse is taking place.**

WHAT IS ABUSE?

	PHYSICAL SIGNS	BEHAVIOURAL SIGNS
PHYSICAL ABUSE	Physical signs such as unexplained injuries Unusual bruising, scalds	Behavioural signs such as fear of contact or going to a certain place Aggression and bullying or abuse of others Feelings of depression, withdrawal
NEGLECT	Constant hunger or significant weight change Ill-fitting or inappropriate clothes Untreated conditions and failure to attend health appointments Lack of access to hearing aids, glasses and or inhalers	Always being tired Persistent absences, lateness and lack of kit or belongings Regularly left without parental supervision at an inappropriate age
SEXUAL ABUSE	Any physical symptoms such as genital discomfort, pain or infections Bed-wetting or incontinence	Apparent fear of someone, reluctance to be alone Running away Age-inappropriate sexually explicit knowledge or behaviour
BULLYING	Weight change Unexplained injuries and bruising Stomach and headaches, bed-wetting Disturbed sleep	Difficulty making friends Low and withdrawal from others Reluctance to attend school or social events Anxiety over social media or receiving texts
EMOTIONAL ABUSE	Lack of growth or development Eating disorders Self-harm	Being unable to play or interact with other children Fear of mistakes Low mood and withdrawal from others

REPORTING CONCERNS

Wiltshire County FA promotes a safe, and fun environment for all at Green Lane playing facilities. We have a reporting system and work closely with our member clubs to support any concerns raised.

CONCERNS AND DISCLOSURE FROM YOUNG PEOPLE:

Qualified coaches, managers, Referees who ref U18s all have undertaken the Safeguarding Children Workshop in order to have the knowledge required to support their players when needed. Wiltshire County FA staff have a duty to respond to any disclosures from children and young people - whether the issue is about home life, school or issues at a Club.

CONCERNS NOTED BY STAFF:

All Wiltshire County FA staff have a responsibility to record and refer any concerns they may have about a young person. It is not their responsibility to investigate any suspicions or worries, however they are required to inform the Designated Safeguarding officer, Deputy Safeguarding Lead or Senior Safeguarding lead.

CONCERNS NOTED BY PARENTS/CARERS:

Parents and carers know their child best and are best placed to notice any significant changes in their behaviour or well-being. If you are concerned about your child, you can contact their Club Welfare Officer, County Designated Safeguarding officer.

REPORTING A CONCERN

1. WHY MIGHT YOU GET IN TOUCH?

Speak to a member of staff about:

- A concern about a young person
- Poor practice of a member of staff
- Concerns about something you've seen or heard.

If you have shared a concern, we will keep you informed every step of the way if it's safe to do so.

2. WHO DO WE SPEAK TO?

Once you have informed a member of staff, they will share the information with the Designated Safeguarding Officer. They will immediately start to think of ways to keep the child safe.

The people in our Safeguarding team are experienced and trained to look at your concerns, making decisions that put the child's best interests first.

We always try to work openly and will work in partnership with you.

Information is shared on a 'need to know' basis.

We keep your information safe and secure.

3. WHAT HAPPENS NEXT?

Dependent on the concern, the Designated Safeguarding officer might need to speak to other services outside of the County FA to support the child and their family.

Where it's safe to do so, we'll ask for your permission to speak to other services.

We might speak to services like: Children's Services/ Health professionals/ Police.

WILTSHIRE COUNTY FA

SAFEGUARDING:



WILTSHIRE FA DSO:

Maria Lai - maria.lai@wiltshirefa.com | Safeguarding@wiltshirefa.com
Blair Keltie - blair.keltie@wiltshirefa.com | Safeguarding@wiltshirefa.com
01793486047

LOCAL AUTHORITY SAFEGUARDING:

WILTSHIRE COUNCIL MASH TEAM
mash@wiltshire.gcsx.gov.uk | 0300 4560108

SWINDON BOROUGH COUNCIL MASH TEAM
swindonmash@swindon.gov.uk | 01793466903

In an emergency, where there is a threat to life, serious injury, or a crime in progress call: 999. For non-emergency calls or to report a crime call: 101

CHILDLINE
0800 1111
www.childline.org.uk

BARNARDOS
www.barnardos.org.uk

THINKUKNOW
www.thinkuknow.co.uk

YOUNG MINDS
youngminds.org.uk

FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION
www.thefa.com

NSPCC
www.nspcc.org.uk