



Calverton Miners Welfare Football Club Safeguarding Children Policy Social media/Photography & Video

We insist that anyone taking general Photos/Video asks advance permission of the event organiser and opposition team managers/Parents prior to taking or sharing any images in any format and they will respect any request to deny taking photos if so requested.

It's important that children and young people feel happy with their achievements and have photographs and films of their special moments. Family and friends also want to be able to share the successes of their children when they have been part of a special event or activity.

However, some children, parents or carers may not be comfortable with images of themselves or their children being shared. For example:

- if a child and/or their family have experienced abuse they may worry about the perpetrator tracing them online
- children who choose not to have contact with some members of their family may decide to minimise their online presence
- families may have religious or cultural reasons for choosing not to be photographed.

It's important to be aware of child protection and safeguarding issues when taking photos of or filming children and young people. The potential for misuse of images can be reduced if organisations are aware of the potential dangers and put appropriate measures in place.

You should also consider the data protection implications of making, using and storing images of children and young people for your organisation's use.

Using social media safely with children and young people

There are lots of benefits for children and young people when using social media. This includes staying connected with friends and family, enabling innovative ways of learning and creating new ways for them to express themselves.

It can also have many benefits to organisations, for example:

- staying in contact with children outside of face-to-face meetings, activities and events
- providing specialist support to children, such as counselling and therapy
- promoting events
- livestreaming activities and running online sessions.
- creating online groups, forums and communities.

But there are risks when you're using social media to communicate with children.

But There are Online risks

Children may be exposed to upsetting or inappropriate content online, particularly if the platform you're using doesn't have robust privacy and security settings or if you're not checking posts. This content might be sexually explicit or it might be harmful in other ways, such as [radicalisation](#), [bullying](#), or content that's upsetting.

Children may be at risk of being [groomed](#) if they have an online profile that means they can be contacted privately.

Children's posts or profile information may expose personal information and put them at risk. For example, they may talk about their home life, feelings, or thoughts they've been having. There may be information that makes them identifiable such as locations of events they are taking part in or visual clues in photographs. Perpetrators may use this information to groom, abuse or exploit children.

Perpetrators of abuse may create fake profiles to try to contact children and young people through the platform you're using, for example an adult posing as a child. They may also create anonymous accounts and engage in cyberbullying or trolling. People known to a child can also perpetrate abuse.

On many platforms, children can be contacted anywhere and at any time through private messaging or notification alerts. This means it's harder for them to escape from abusive messages or upsetting content that they are tagged in.

Reporting your concerns about the welfare of a child or young person.

Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility if you are worried about a child it is important that you report your concerns – no action is not an option.

- i. If you are worried about a child then you need to report your concerns to the Club Welfare Officer.
- ii. If the issue is one of poor practice the Club Welfare Officer will either deal with the matter themselves or seek advice from the CFA Welfare Officer
- iii. If the concern is more serious – possible child abuse, where possible, contact the CFA Welfare Officer first, then immediately contact the Police or Children's Social Care.
- iv. If the child needs immediate medical treatment take them to a hospital or call an ambulance and tell them this is a child protection concern. Let your Club Welfare Officer know what action you have taken, they in turn will inform the CFA Welfare Officer.
- v. If at any time you are not able to contact your Club Welfare Officer or the matter is clearly serious then you can either:

contact your CFA Welfare Officer directly

contact The FA Safeguarding Team on 0800 169 1863 or Safeguarding@TheFA.com
contact the Police or Children's Social Care
call the NSPCC 24 hour Helpline for advice on 0808 800 5000 or text 88858 or email help@nspcc.org.uk
NB – The FA's Safeguarding Children Policy and Procedures are available via – www.TheFA.com/football-rules-governance/safeguarding – click on 'Raising Awareness – Best Practice Downloads', the Policy and Procedures document is within the resources area.

The policy outlines in detail what to do if you are concerned about the welfare of a child and includes flow diagrams which describe this process. How to make a referral is also covered in the Safeguarding Children workshop. Participants are given the opportunity to discuss how this feels and how best they can prepare themselves to deal with such a situation. For more information on this workshop contact your County Welfare Office

Further advice on Safeguarding Children matters can be obtained from

- i) CMWFC : JOANNE SWINSCOE:07916 831048 : DAVID LEE 07904 458723
- ii) County Football Association's Welfare Officer safeguarding@nottinghamshirefa.com
- iii) www.TheFA.com/football-rules-governance/safeguarding • Emailing – Safeguarding@TheFA.com
- iv) The FA Safeguarding Children general enquiry line 0845 210 8080