

Child Welfare

1 – Hatfield Peverel FC understands it's responsibility to safeguard every child who attends the club, to create a safe environment for the children to play football and ensure we have volunteers who respect and understand this. We adhere to the Football Association's (FA's) Safeguarding Children Policy and Procedures and align our safeguarding procedure with the guidance from this in addition to the documents produced by the FA. Our welfare documentation can be found here: [Hatfield Peverel FC Policies and Procedures](#)

2 – The key guidance from the FA Safeguarding Children Policy is as follows:

- The child's welfare and safety are at the heart of the club
- All children have the right to be protected regardless of age, race, sexual orientation, faith, gender, or disability
- All allegations of abuse and children's safety will be responded too appropriately with the correct steps adhered too
- Working with coaches, managers, committee members and parents is vital for collaborative and holistic working of children's safety

3- Hatfield Peverel FC insists that every adult who volunteers in a role which might involve contact with a child must be first aid trained, attend a safeguarding course and be DBS checked to ensure all children are protected from physical, sexual, emotional abuse and bullying. Coaches should be qualified to FA Level One standard. To meet these aims we adopt the FA's Responsible Recruitment guidelines which set out that as a club we must ensure volunteers complete a DBS check, understand their role and responsibilities and have a clear understanding of which courses need to be completed when. New volunteers will be met with by one of our Child Welfare Officers and where possible another club representative before starting in their new role to ensure this is all understood.

4- Hatfield Peverel FC supports the FA's Whistle Blowing Policy where any adult or child can contact the FA safeguarding team on 0800 169 1863 if there are any concerns about an adult or child at the club.

5- Hatfield Peverel FC has appointed two Child Welfare Officers (CWO) who have completed the Safeguarding Children and Welfare officers' Workshop. The CWOs are the first point of contact for all children and adults regarding any child welfare concerns. The CWOs are trained in the procedures and will handle the situation swiftly and effectively while liaising with the County FA.

The CWOs are also responsible for raising awareness of expected behaviour amongst club members.

6- We comply with the FA's bullying policy and understand bullying is not acceptable at our club and if bullying does occur, all parents and players should report to a CWO so the situation can be dealt with. We follow the FA's equality act.

7- Codes of Conduct for players, parents, officials, and coaches have been implemented and are signed and understood by all in order to minimise potential misconduct at the club. Officials are made aware of the sanctions that can be implemented by the County FA.

8- Any concerns about a child should be directly reported to a CWO, even if the issue is regarding poor practice as the club welfare officer will deal with matter to seek advice from Essex FA.

10- If a child requires immediate medical treatment, requires an ambulance or hospitalisation then it should be made clear to all that this should be reported to a CWO. If an officer is not available, then contact can be made to the County FA welfare officer or the FA Safeguarding Team on 0800 169 1863 or safeguarding@thefa.com

11- All our managers and coaches have their own first aid kit which is with them at all training sessions and games and have the emergency action plan which states where our defib is kept, our closest hospital is and our address if an ambulance needs to be called. Managers are responsible for ensuring their medical equipment is fully present and in date. All managers and coaches will have medical information for each child and should be given any medical equipment in a bag marked with child's details before training and matches. This may include asthma pumps and EpiPens.

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