

Safeguarding Children Policy and Procedures

MANCHESTER CITY FOOTBALL CLUB

Approved by

Manchester City Football Club

Manchester City Council LSCB

Trafford District Council LSCB

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This is a shortened version of the policy. A full version of the Policy is available upon request from Nic.Scott@mcfc.co.uk



General Statement

Manchester City Football Club: Safeguarding Children

Manchester City Football Club (the Football Club) seeks to ensure the safety and well being of all children and young people who engage in any of the activities conducted under the name of the football club.

To support this, a policy has been produced. This is the Manchester City Football Club Safeguarding Children Policy.

This policy recognises all recent and relevant legislation and regulations at the date of publication.

This policy has been approved by the board of the football club and the two Local Safeguarding Children Boards for Manchester and Trafford Councils, concerned with safeguarding issues at club premises in Manchester and Trafford.

This policy remains extant until such time as it is replaced or revoked by the board of the football club at that time.

This policy is for use throughout the club and is to be observed by all those working with children and young people whether employed by the football club or not. The application of this policy is not discretionary. All the requirements of the policy are obligatory and are to be enforced as indicated by the appropriate persons in all cases where there is any instance of child abuse or suspected or likely instance of child abuse.

It is through the application of the Children's Safeguarding Policy that the football club will seek to ensure the safety and well being of all young people engaged in football club activities and equally the safety and security of those responsible for the activities involving young people.

Those young people who are particularly vulnerable because of particular circumstances such as learning difficulties enjoy the same protection levels as all young people engaged in football club activity.



2: Manchester City Football Club's Safeguarding Policy

The football club fully appreciates and accepts its responsibilities for the safety and wellbeing of children and young people who engage in any way in any activities carried out under the name of the football club.

Activities are taken to include any activity whether football related or not which are carried out under the club name and with club authority and permission. This excludes activities carried out at arm's length, such as supporters' club activities.

Activity included in the terms and remit of this policy include:

- Junior Blues
- City in the Community
- Academy activity;
- Activity at Satellite Centres
- Manchester City Ladies
- One off activities such as seasonal activity at the Manchester Central or other venues

For the purposes of this policy a child or young person is somebody under the age of 18.

In any activity conducted under the name of Manchester City F.C. it is fully accepted that the safety and well being of children and young people is of paramount importance.

Manchester City F.C. undertake to have in post a Children's Service Officer (C.S.O.) who will be the responsible person for matters involving safeguarding children issues, along with other nominated members of club staff as appropriate. This person will be responsible for the application of this policy and all arrangements for complaint and investigation.

The C.S.O. will work in accordance with Premier League regulations (handbook Section O) and be responsible for arranging staff training.

The Football Club's Child Safeguarding Policy will be applicable to any and all circumstances involving any aspect of child safeguarding.

Parents and carers responsible for young people, including those providing accommodation for young people will be informed of the principles of the policy and will have full access to the policy at all times.

All staff and all those engaged in any way with activities involving young people will share in the application of the Football Club's Child Safeguarding Policy and will receive regular training and renewal appropriate to their position.

All staff engaged in any way in activities involving substantial and unaccompanied access to children and young people are required to have a Criminal Records Bureau (CRB) check and will not be allowed to work unaccompanied until clearance has been received by the Children's Service Officer. All staff are required to undergo CRB checks at least once every three years.

The Manchester City Football Club's Safeguarding Policy is intended to protect children and young people from abuse whether such abuse or alleged abuse occurs at the football club or elsewhere.

This therefore includes any reported abuse of children which has allegedly occurred away from football club premises but which comes to the attention of a member of staff at the club.



Any allegation of abuse or suspected abuse must be reported to the Children's Service Officer who will be responsible, in complete confidence, for any investigatory or other action taken. Action may include reference and reports to police or other agencies (e.g. NSPCC) and to the Premier League as appropriate and if seen to be required by the Children's Officer.

The Football Club's Safeguarding Policy recognises the rights of all children regardless of differences including, but not limited to; race, culture, language, nationality and disability. The Policy acknowledges the rights of parents or guardians, both mother and father, as indicated in legislation concerning parental rights and responsibilities.

This policy recognises that any person responsible for a child or young person, whether solely or jointly, is in a position of trust which requires behaviour to be in accordance with this policy. A person in a position of trust is, for example:

- A coach
- An official club scout acting for the football club
- An official driver
- A learning mentor
- A member of staff engaged in match day activity such as helping mascots
- Match day staff involved in any way with young people, including stewards

The football club will use its best endeavours to ensure that no person with any conviction for any aspect of child abuse will be employed in a position which involves contact with children and young people.



Manchester City Football Club - Safeguarding Children Procedures Summary

Manchester City Football Club is committed to protecting children and vulnerable young people and will take action to uphold this commitment. All information which is provided will be treated in strictest confidence and will be followed up or investigated thoroughly.

Protecting children and young people

Be observant: spot the signs of physical, sexual or mental abuse.

Be attentive: listen to young people and to information about them.

Be aware: listen to colleagues and friends.

Be aware of the circumstances in which children and young people can be subjected to abuse.

Do not hesitate to report any suspicion to the club's C.S.O. who can be contacted on 0161 438 7613.

Protecting yourself from allegations of abuse

Don't put yourself in a compromising situation e.g.

Alone in a vehicle with a vulnerable child or young person;

Alone or with others in changing rooms, toilet facilities or showers used by children and young persons;

In circumstances where there can be suggestions of improper conduct such as a cinema or in a bar;

Where there is improper conversation or discussion of a personal nature;

Where there is an inappropriate experience such as swearing or the use of obscenity;

Where there is discussion of personal experience of a sexual nature.

If in doubt, don't.

Remember

All matters relating to safeguarding children are confidential.

Contact the Children's Service Officer for advice before doing anything.

Health and fitness are part of protecting children and injuries should always be attended to.

Children should always be collected by a responsible adult after any activity.