

## **CHILD PROTECTION POLICY**

Weekley Rovers FC acknowledges its responsibility to safeguard the welfare of every child and young person who has been entrusted to its care and is committed to working to provide a safe environment for all its members.

We endorse and adopt the policy statement contained in the Football Association's child protection and best practice policy and procedures.

The key principles of the FA Child Protection Policy are that:

- The child's 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, disability, culture, language, racial origin, religious beliefs or sexual orientation.
- All suspicions or allegations of abuse will be taken seriously and responded to swiftly and appropriately.
- Working in partnership with children, young people and their parents or carers is essential.

We acknowledge that every child or young person who plays or participates in football should be able to take part in an enjoyable and safe environment and be protected from poor practice and abuse. Weekley Rovers FC recognises that this is the responsibility of every adult involved in the Club.

Weekley Rovers FC has a Club Welfare Officer (CWO) who has completed the requirement of the Child Protection and Best Practice course. The CWO is the first point of contact for all Club members and parents or guardians regarding concerns for the welfare of any child or young person. The CWO will liaise directly with both the League's and County FA's Child Welfare Officer and will be familiar with procedures for referring any concerns.





We endorse and adopt the FA's Child Protection and Best Practice guidelines for Recruiting Volunteers and will:

Request identification documents

Meet and chat with the applicant(s) and where possible conduct interviews before appointing

Request and follow up two references before appointing

Require an FA CRC Enhanced Disclosure in line with FA guidelines

All Weekley Rovers FC members with direct access to children and young people are required to complete a CRC Enhanced Disclosure via the FA CRC Unit. If there are any concerns regarding the appropriateness of an individual then guidance will be sought from the FA.

We acknowledge and endorse the FA's identification of bullying as a category of abuse. Bullying in any form is not acceptable at our Club. If bullying does occur, any player, parents or guardians should inform the Club CWO and be assured that any incident will be dealt with promptly. If the CWO is not available then the Club Secretary should be contacted.

Weekley Rovers FC supports the FA's "whistle blowing" policy. Any adult or young person with concerns about a colleague can "whistle blow" by contacting the County Child Welfare Officer at Northamptonshire FA via their offices in Northampton on 01604 670741.

Alternatively, they can also contact the FA by calling 0800 169 1863 and asking for The FA's safeguarding team, or via email on <a href="mailto:safeguarding@TheFA.com">safeguarding@TheFA.com</a>.

In addition they can go direct the Police or Children's Social Care and report your concerns there, or to the Child Protection in Sport Unit via <a href="mailto:cpsu@nspcc.org.uk">cpsu@nspcc.org.uk</a> or the NSPCC Helpline via **0808 800 5000** or by emailing <a href="mailto:help@nspcc.org.uk">help@nspcc.org.uk</a>.

