



Child Protection Policy

The club fully recognises its responsibilities for child protection. Our policy applies to all coaches and a volunteers working in the club with children. It is a requirement that all our coaches and club officials are subject to Disclosure and Barring (DBS) checks. These are the main elements to our policy:

- Ensuring we practice safe recruitment in checking the suitability of coaches and volunteers to work with children.
- Raising awareness of child protection issues and equipping children with the skills needed to keep them safe.
- Developing and then implementing procedures for identifying and reporting cases, or suspected cases of abuse.
- Supporting athletes who have been abused in accordance with his/her agreed child protection plan.
- Establishing a safe environment in which the athletes can learn and develop.
- We recognise that coaching staff are well placed to observe the outward signs of abuse.
- Establish and maintain an environment where athletes feel secure, are encouraged to talk and are listened to.
- Ensure athletes know there are adults in the club whom they can approach if they are worried.

We will take into account and follow the guidelines set out by UK Athletics Welfare Procedures and Policy (incorporating Child Protection).

- The Club will ensure we have a designated senior person for child protection, who has received appropriate training and support for this role.
- We have a nominated committee member responsible for child protection.
- Every member of coaching staff including volunteers knows the name of the designated senior person responsible for child protection and their role.
- All staff and volunteers understand their responsibilities in being alert to the signs of abuse and responsibility for referring any concerns to the designated person responsible for child protection.
- Those parents have an understanding of the responsibility placed on the club and coaching staff for child protection by setting out its obligations on the club notice board and club website.
- Develop effective links with relevant agencies and co-operate as required with their enquiries regarding child protection matters.
- Keep written records of concerns about children, even where there's no need to refer the matter immediately.
- Ensure all records are kept securely.
- Follow procedures where an allegation is made to a member of coaching staff or volunteer.
- Where a person is convicted or is made the subject of a caution in respect of an offence that shall constitute a breach of the rules of the club. The club shall have the power to order the suspension of the person from all aspects of the club for such period (including indefinitely) and on such terms and conditions as it seems fit.

Our Welfare officers are Gayle Gilbody and Mark Marshall both can be contacted at the club on training nights Tuesday and Thursday or on their mobile number.

Gayle Gilbody Mobile No 07792 791765

Mark Marshall Mobile No 07969 098305

