



AFC Aldermaston: Safeguarding Children Policy

AFC Aldermaston acknowledge that the safeguarding of children is paramount towards a successful grassroots football club. It is our responsibility as a football club to not only ensure our children enjoy themselves but also keep them safe while doing so.

Young Person/Child to us:

A child our young person to us is anyone under the age of 18 involved within a club function, training session, tournament or matchday. We apply ourselves to the FA's safeguarding children policy and practice. As a club we take great pride in mental health and welfare for all junior participants and parents/volunteers.

(see below for contact details).

Our Policy:

1. The child's welfare is, and must always be, the paramount consideration.
2. 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.



3. All suspicions and allegations of abuse will be taken seriously and responded to swiftly and appropriately.
4. Working in partnership with other organisations, children and young people and their parents and 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. AFC Aldermaston recognises that this is the responsibility of every adult involved in our club.
5. AFC Aldermaston has a role to play in safeguarding the welfare of all children and young people by protecting them from physical, sexual or emotional harm and from neglect or bullying. It is noted and accepted that The Football Association's Child Protection Regulation (see The FA Handbook) applies to everyone in football whether in a paid or voluntary capacity. This means whether you are a volunteer, match official, helper on club tours, football coach, club official or medical staff.
6. We endorse and adopt The FA's Responsible Recruitment guidelines for recruiting volunteers and we will:
 - Develop a role profile
 - Request identification documents
 - As a minimum meet and chat with the applicant(s) and where possible conduct interviews before appointing
 - Request and follow up with two references before appointing
 - Require an FA DBS check.

We acknowledge and endorse The FA's identification of bullying as a category of abuse. Bullying of any kind is not acceptable in our league. If bullying does occur, all players or parents/carers should be able to tell and know that incidents will be dealt with promptly. Incidents need to be reported to the CWO or alternatively, in cases of serious bullying, we may contact the CFA Welfare Officer.



Respect codes of conduct for Players, Parents /Spectators, Officials and Coaches have been implemented by our Club. validating these Respect codes of conduct the Club has clear actions it will take regarding repeated or serious misconduct at Club level and acknowledges the possibility of potential sanctions which may be implemented by the CFA in more serious circumstances. All registering members will be required to adopt the Respect codes of the Football Association.

Reporting your concerns about the welfare of a child or young person – Safeguarding is everyone’s responsibility.

If you are worried about a child or young person, it is important that you report your concerns – no action is not an option.

If you are worried about a child then you need to report your concerns to the CWO. If the issue is one of poor practice they will either: Deal with the matter themselves or Seek advice from the CFA Welfare Officer

• If the concern is more serious – possible child abuse – they will, where possible, contact the CFA Welfare Officer first, then immediately contact the Police.

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 Police or Children’s Social Care**
- call the NSPCC 24 hour Helpline for advice on 0808 800 5000 or text 88858**



Contact Details for Club Welfare & Safeguarding Officer

Name: Kyle Bone

Mobile: 07470779121

Email: kylebone@hotmail.co.uk

Other Forms of contact:

Club Secretary (Damion Bone): damionbone@hotmail.com

Club Chairman (Martin Desay afcaldermaston1952@gmail.com

Club Development Officer (Matthew Haines): matthewhaines4@gmail.com

FA Safeguarding Children General Enquiry Line: 0845 210 8080

Please note: The FA's Safeguarding Children Policy and Procedures is available via www.TheFA.com/Footballsafes. Click on the 'downloads' under Policy and Procedures. It outlines in detail what to do if you are concerned about the welfare of a child and includes flow diagrams to describe this process. This is also covered within the Safeguarding Children workshop, where participants are given the opportunity to discuss how this feels and how best they can prepare themselves to deal with such a situation.