

# **ARBROATH FOOTBALL CLUB CHILD PROTECTION POLICY**

## **Introduction:**

This Policy Statement sets out Arbroath Football Club's position regarding the protection of all children and young people involved in all aspects of football within the Club.

## **The Aims of the Policy are to:**

- Develop a positive and pro-active approach concerning the protection all children and young people involved in football, helping them to participate in an enjoyable and safe environment.
- Demonstrate best practice in the area of child protection.
- Promote high standards of professional practice throughout all levels of the Club.

## **Policy Statements:**

Arbroath Football Club will ensure that all necessary steps are taken to protect children and young people who participate in football at all levels throughout the Club.

The Club aims to provide high standards of coaching and development for the children and young people who are involved with the Club.

The Club believes that child and young person should be able to participate in football in an enjoyable and safe environment.

The Club recognises that it is everyone's responsibility to protect all children and young people from physical, sexual or emotional abuse, and from all forms of neglect, harassment or bullying.

The Club recognises that child abuse is an emotive and difficult issue. If an allegation or a concern about abuse occurs, those involved will recognise their own feelings and reactions to abuse, and will not allow these to interfere with judgements and actions that need to be taken.

## **The Key Principles underpinning this Policy are:**

- The welfare and safety of Children and Young People must be the paramount consideration.
- All children and young people have a right to be protected from abuse regardless of their age, gender, disability, ethnicity, religious beliefs or sexual orientation.
- That it is essential to work in partnership with parents/carers, as well as local Social Services Departments, the Police, Child Protection Committees, and Education and Welfare Agencies.
- All suspicions and allegations of abuse must be taken seriously and responded to appropriately. Any conduct or other matter which might harm a child or young person, or may pose a risk of harm, constitutes behaviour which is improper and the club will take appropriate to address any concerns.

Everyone involved with Arbroath Football Club should be familiar with the Club's Policy and Procedures for the Protection of Children and Young People.

This Policy is available on the Club's Official Website.

Arbroath Football Club's Independent – Children and Young Person's Child Protection Officer is: Peter Connolly who can be contacted on: 07752110805