



**Foundation**

THE CLUB'S OFFICIAL CHARITY

# Safeguarding Guide for Children

The guide below is for anyone who is under 18, and their friends, family, and guardians to learn more about:

- What Liverpool FC Foundation does to keep children safe and well when they are participating in an LFC Foundation Activity
- What to do if you are worried about something
- What we do at LFC Foundation if we are worried about your safety or wellbeing

**Date: January 2021**

## What is Safeguarding?

Safeguarding is putting the safety and wellbeing of anyone under the age of 18 at the centre of what we do. We aim to create an environment where they feel encouraged; listened to; feel able to reach their potential, and to make a positive contribution to society.

You have the right to be safe wherever you are, at home, with friends, at school, out and about or at football. We want to ensure all our young players are safe and happy.

Everyone at LFC Foundation has responsibility to make sure that the wellbeing of children is put first.

## Creating the LFC Foundation environment for Safeguarding

It is important that everyone at LFC Foundation feels safe and happy. We make sure that:

- We have an environment where you can feel comfortable to tell someone in authority if something worries you.
- We take your concerns seriously
- Our staff have special training and guidelines on the best ways to work with children.

## What is Abuse?

Abuse is anything another person does that causes harm. Abuse can happen in families, between friends or anywhere. Peer on Peer abuse is the most common sort of abuse.

### Physical Abuse

Things like

- Hitting, smacking, and slapping
- Burning or scalding
- Throwing things or spitting at you
- Shaking or suffocating you

### Sexual Abuse

When someone ...

Touches you  
Says things  
Makes you watch, or  
Makes you take part in...

... things that makes you uncomfortable

Did you know that up-skirting is a criminal offence?

## **Emotional Abuse**

When someone makes you feel bad about yourself. They might ignore you or put you down. It can include:

- Putting you in a difficult situation or humiliating you.
- Calling you names or controlling you.
- Being aggressive to you, your friends or family
- Threatening or intimidating you.

## **Bullying**

This is a repeated action that make you feel bad. It can be name calling, pushing, or threatening you. This can happen online, through others or face to face.

## **Neglect**

When people do not provide basic needs such as food, medicine, housing, clothing, as well as other physical, emotional, social, educational and safety needs. It also means not protecting you from harm.

Abuse can also take other forms such as child sexual or criminal exploitation, female genital mutilation (FGM), hazing (initiation activities).

**Abuse is not acceptable.  
Being a victim of abuse is not your fault.  
Don't keep it to yourself.  
We will help.**

## Preventing Radicalisation and Extremism

LFC Foundation will not tolerate activity of any sort which creates an environment for the radicalization of individuals regardless of which extremist ideology it is based upon.

LFC Foundation aims to protect vulnerable individuals from being radicalized or exposed to extremism, by identifying who they are and providing them with support.

Radicalization is “the process through which an individual change from passiveness or activism to become more revolutionary, militant or extremist, especially where there is intent towards, or support for, violence.”

Extremism is defined as “the holding of extreme political or religious views”.

The strategy covers all forms of terrorism, including far right extremism and some aspects of non-violent extremism. It is important to remember that Islamist ideology should not be confused with traditional religious practice. It is an ideology which is based on a distorted interpretation of Islam, which betrays Islam’s peaceful principles.

All LFC Foundation staff have been trained to spot and how to report any concerns that they might have that someone is showing extremist views or might have been radicalised.

## What LFC Foundation does to protect children?

### Recruitment and Training

All staff who work with anyone under 18 goes through a rigorous recruitment and induction process. This includes background checks before they start working. Interviewing them to ensure their values match the LFC Foundation values. Getting references to ensure they can do their job well.

All LFC Foundation staff have specialist training, so they know what to look for, and what to do to safeguard all children.

All our staff who work in the community are vetted, chosen, and trained to enable you to have an enjoyable and safe time.

### Information held about me

If you have any ongoing contact with LFC Foundation it is likely we will take some personal details, for example your name, address, date of birth, details of your parents or guardian.

This is so we know who you are and can contact you again.

We might also ask to take your picture. This will be for good reason, like to celebrate an event or an achievement. We might take pictures to help you develop your football technique.

Either way we will ask your parent / carer’s permission to do this.

Normally if you give permission, we apply it to all situations where photographs might be taken.

You can always opt out.

At the outset, or mid-way through you, or your parent / carer can opt out, and withdraw your permission.

We store all information and images in line with data protection law. This means all information is:

- Collected with your consent and your parents/ carers consent
- Stored safely
- Deleted within the correct timescales

## LFC Foundation Safeguarding Team

All staff at LFC Foundation are responsible for your safeguarding.

We also have a specialist team whose job is to ensure you are listened to, and action is taken to help you. They are specially trained and know how best to help you.

If you are worried about something – however small - tell us, we will listen, we will help.

### Safeguarding Leaders

- John Pout – LFC Director of Safeguarding
- Nicola Fryer - Associate Safeguarding
- Karl Carney - LFC Foundation Designated Safeguarding Lead

### Safeguarding Officers

- Andrew Hanlon – Safeguarding Officer
- David McParland – Safeguarding Officer
- Elaine Birkenhead – Safeguarding Officer (Compliance / Governance)
- Alex Jones – Safeguarding Officer
- James McCall – Safeguarding Officer
- Terri Ritchie - Advisory Safeguarding Officer
- Alex Hughes – Safeguarding Officer
- Rob Fairfield - Safeguarding Officer
- Anna Slack – Advisory Safeguarding Officer
- Nicky Rae - Advisory Safeguarding Officer

## Asking for Help

### How to report something you are worried about

LFC Foundation is somewhere where you can have a good time. It is also somewhere you can turn to share your worries. These could be worries at home, with friends, at school or at LFC.

### We will listen

It can be difficult to share things. You might worry that something is wrong, you might not be able to explain things well. This does not matter; LFC Foundation staff will listen and give you the time to talk, listen, act on what you say and to make sure you are safe.

**It can be difficult to ask for help, here is what you can do**

You do not have to share everything all at once. Tell them what worries you, telling someone is the most important thing. Choose an adult you trust. Someone who makes you feel safe and you know will listen.

It could be;

- A coach
- A member of the LFC Foundation Safeguarding Team
- A teacher
- A family member
- A family friend

Telling someone your worries might make you nervous. Do not worry that is normal but telling someone about things that worry you will make you feel better once you have spoken out. It might be hard to describe things, but we will listen and understand. You might prefer to write things down, that is fine too.

**Talk to us if you have any worries, you can report a problem in detail to LFC Foundation here this will go straight to the Director, Safeguarding**

**Are you worried about the conduct of a member of staff?**

If you feel a member of LFC Foundation staff has;

- behaved in a way that has harmed a child or may have harmed a child.
- possibly committed a criminal offence against or related to a child.
- behaved towards a child or children in a way that indicates he or she may pose a risk of harm to children.
- or
- behaved or may have behaved in a way that indicates they may not be suitable to work with children.

Please report it in on the form on the website.

It will go straight to the Safeguarding team who will investigate every concern thoroughly. All allegations are taken seriously.

For all reported cases we will contact you back, to ensure we have all relevant information. We will also outline the next steps. Once the investigation is underway, we will keep you updated.