



Safeguarding Policy Statement

Every young person, defined as any person under the age of 18, who plays or participates in The FA Vauxhall Youth Programme, should be able to take part in an enjoyable and safe environment and be protected from abuse. As such The FA Vauxhall Youth Programme and therein all of its staff, adhere to The FA's Safeguarding Children Policy and Procedures.

The FA recognises its responsibility to safeguard the welfare of all children and young people by protecting them from physical, sexual or emotional harm and from neglect or bullying. The FA is committed to working to provide a safe environment for all children and young people to participate in the sport to the best of their abilities for as long as they choose to do so. The Safeguarding Children Policy is supported by The FA's Respect Programme to address verbal abuse and bullying of youngsters by parents and coaches on the sidelines.

The FA Vauxhall Youth Programme adheres to The FA's simple three part approach to safeguarding. This includes:

- Getting the right people involved – all of our FA Vauxhall Youth Officers have been FA CRB checked and attended The FA Safeguarding Children workshop.
- Creating a safe environment – all of our FA Vauxhall Youth Officers use the Respect codes of conduct, adhere to The FA's best practice and are child focused.

- Promoting clear systems – all of our FA Vauxhall Youth Officers are familiar with The FA's reporting procedures if there is a concern about the welfare of a child.

If you would like to find out more about The FA's Safeguarding Children Programme please visit www.TheFA.com/Footballsafes

Safeguarding children is everyone's responsibility. If you are worried about a child involved in The FA Vauxhall Youth Programme, it is important that you report your concerns - no action is not an option!

1. If you are worried about a child then you need to report your concerns to The FA Vauxhall Youth Officer.
2. If the issue is one of poor practice they will either deal with the matter themselves or seek advice from The FA's Equality and Child Protection Department.
3. If the concern is more serious - possible child abuses - where possible contact The FA Vauxhall Youth Officer first, then immediately contact the Police or Children's Services.

4. If the child needs immediate medical treatment take them to a hospital or call an ambulance and tell them this is a child protection concern. Let The FA Vauxhall Youth Officer know what action you have taken.
5. If at any time you are not able to contact The FA Vauxhall Youth Officer or the matter is serious then you can either:
 - Contact your County FA Welfare Officer directly
 - Call The FA/NSPCC 24 hour Helpline for advice on 0808 800 5000
 - Contact the Police or Children's Services

For further information on the FA's Safeguarding Children Policy and Procedures please refer to www.thefa.com/footballsafes



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THE FA VAUXHALL YOUTH PROGRAMME