

Bradford City

Safeguarding Commitment Statement

August 2023: Version 2

The purpose and scope of this Commitment statement

Bradford City AFC recognises its duty of care to safeguard all children, young people and young players, vulnerable adults/groups involved in activities organised by ourselves from harm. All children and adults at risk have the right to protection, and the needs of disabled children and others who may be particularly vulnerable must be taken into account. We will do their utmost to ensure the safety and protection of all children/groups and adults at risk involved in activities through adherence to the safeguarding guidelines adopted by the Club.

The purpose of this policy statement is:

- to protect children and young people who interact with Bradford City AFC from harm. This includes the children of adults who use our services
- to provide staff and volunteers, as well as children and young people and their families, with the overarching principles that guide our approach to child protection. This policy applies to anyone working on behalf of Bradford City Football Club, including senior managers and the board, paid staff, volunteers, sessional workers, agency staff, contractors and students.

Legal framework

This policy has been drawn up on the basis of legislation, policy and guidance that seeks to protect children in England. A summary of the key legislation and guidance is available in the safeguarding policy document.

Scope:

This policy covers all activities within the; Stadium, Training Ground, and Academy. The community foundation operate their own Safeguarding policies and processes in line with the code of capability.

Supporting documents:

This policy statement should be read alongside our organisational policies, procedures, guidance and other related documents:

- role description for the designated and senior safeguarding officer
- dealing with disclosures and concerns about a child or young person or adult at risk
- managing allegations against staff and volunteers
- low level concerns
- code of conduct for staff and volunteers, players, and coaches
- photography and sharing images guidance

- safer recruitment
- online safety
- anti-bullying
- managing complaints
- whistleblowing
- health and safety
- induction, training, supervision and support
- adult to child supervision ratios.

We believe that:

- children and young people and adults at risk should never experience abuse of any kind
- we have a responsibility to promote the welfare of all children and young people and adults at risk, to keep them safe and to practise in a way that protects them.

We recognise that:

- the welfare of children and adults at risk is paramount in all the work we do and
- in all the decisions we take
 - working in partnership with children, young people, their parents, carers and
 - other agencies is essential in promoting young people's welfare
- all children, regardless of age, disability, gender reassignment, race, religion or belief, sex, or sexual orientation have an equal right to protection from all types of harm or abuse
 - extra safeguards may be needed to keep children who are additionally vulnerable safe from abuse.

We will seek to keep children and young people safe by:

- valuing, listening to and respecting them
- appointing a Senior Safeguarding Officer, a designated Academy Safeguarding Officer and a lead board member for safeguarding
- adopting child protection and safeguarding best practice through our policies, procedures and code of conduct for staff and volunteers
- developing and implementing an effective online safety policy and related procedures • providing effective management for staff and volunteers through supervision, support, training and quality assurance measures so that all staff and volunteers know about and follow our policies, procedures and behaviour codes confidently and competently.

- recruiting and selecting staff and volunteers safely, ensuring all necessary checks are made
- recording and storing and using information professionally and securely, in line with data protection legislation and guidance [more information about this is available from the Information Commissioner's Office: ico.org.uk/fororganisations]
- sharing information about safeguarding and good practice with children and their families via leaflets, posters, group work and one-to-one discussions
- making sure that children, young people and their families know where to go for help if they have a concern
- using our safeguarding and child protection procedures to share concerns and relevant information with agencies who need to know, and involving children, young people, parents, families and carers appropriately
- using our procedures to manage any allegations against staff and volunteers appropriately
- creating and maintaining an anti-bullying environment and ensuring that we have a policy and procedure to help us deal effectively with any bullying that does arise
- ensuring that we have effective complaints and whistleblowing measures in place
- ensuring that we provide a safe physical environment for our children, young people, staff and volunteers, by applying health and safety measures in accordance with the law and regulatory guidance
- building a safeguarding culture where staff and volunteers, children, young people and their families, treat each other with respect and are comfortable about sharing concerns.

Contact details

Senior Safeguarding Officer:

Paula Watson

E: paulawatson@bradfordcityafc.com

The SSO is the senior manager with primary responsibility for managing and reporting safeguarding concerns and for putting into place and monitoring policies, procedures and daily practice to safeguard children and adults at risk in the organisation.

The Match day Safeguarding contact at the club is Sian Nuttall

by text 07949814243 or to the control room

The Academy Safeguarding & Club DSO contact at the club is Lee-Ann Brewer 07949 814505. The DSO is the designated person with primary responsibility for managing and reporting safeguarding concerns and to ensure there is good daily practice to safeguard children and adults at risk in the organisation.

The Academy Player Care officer is Tom Calvert 07963 080219

Bradford City FC Community Foundation DSO is Lizzie Saunderson 07469 234066

If you prefer to report an incident by email please contact safeguarding@bradfordcityafc.com

If there are any concerns about any of the above named people then any of the external agencies can be contacted or Ryan Sparks (CEO) can be contacted at Ryansparks@bradfordcityafc.com

If you have serious concerns about the immediate safety of the child or young person contact the Police or Social Services. Record the name of the person you spoke to and tell your DSO what you have done.

Bradford Council Children Safeguarding Services During Working Hours: Monday to Thursday 8:30am to 5:00pm, Friday 8:30am to 4:30pm First Contact Team:01274 437500– out of hours 01274 431010

Bradford Council Adult Safeguarding Services During Working Hours: Monday to Thursday 8:30am to 4:30pm, Friday 8:30am to 4:00pm First Contact Team:01274 431077– out of hours 01274 431010

West Riding FA: out of hours 07912 309565

FL Child Protection Advisor: 01772 325 811/07795 628 379

FA Safeguarding Team: 0800 169 1863 or via safeguarding@thefa.com

English Football League Trust on 07583491701

NSPCC Helpline number: 0808 800 5000/ www.nspcc.org.uk/inform/cpsu