

	MONIFIETH ATHLETIC FOOTBALL CLUB			
	Document Title: Child Protection Policy			
	Document Num: MAFC003	Version: 05	Date Issued: July 2019 Review Date: June 2020	

Child Protection Policy – Monifieth Athletic Football Club

Monifieth Athletic Football Club acknowledges its responsibility to safeguard the welfare of every child and young person who has been entrusted to its care and is committed to working to provide a safe, fun environment for all members. Monifieth Athletic Football Club aims to be welcoming and accessible to all children and families in the local community, regardless of age, gender, disability, culture, language, racial origin, religious beliefs or sexual orientation.

The aim of the Club’s Policy is to define the meaning of abuse or neglect, identify the possible signs and indicators and inform all adults associated with the Club what the procedure is in dealing with suspected cases, so they can confidently put the procedures into practice.

What is Child Abuse?

There are 5 categories of abuse:

1. Neglect, including lack of food, untreated medical problems, inappropriate clothing.
2. Physical abuse, including hitting, kicking, punching, deliberately making them ill, giving alcohol / tobacco / drugs.
3. Emotional abuse, including sarcasm, degrading punishments, threats, lack of security & praise.
4. Sexual abuse, including pressure from an adult on a child to take part in, or be subject to any type of sexual activity. Showing of any pornographic images / films.
5. Non-Organic Failure to Thrive, including inadequate nutrition.

What are the Signs of Abuse?

Coaches/Club Members may become aware of:

1. Loss of weight without medical reason, obesity, smelly and dirty in appearance.
2. Unexplained bruising, cuts or burns. Acting out aggression in play, intoxicated.
3. Changes in behaviour, lack of confidence, low self-esteem. Carry out acts inappropriate to their age.
4. Sexually explicit behaviour inappropriate to age, self-inflicted injury, lack of trust in adults particularly those close to child, injury or unusual appearance to private areas of the body.
5. Nervous, attention seeking or clingy, streetwise - they look after themselves, dehydrated, not attained significant developmental milestones within their age range.

It is important to note that these signs do not automatically mean that a child has been abused. Each child is an individual and as such will respond in different ways to harm they have experienced.



	<h1 style="margin: 0;">MONIFIETH ATHLETIC FOOTBALL CLUB</h1>			
	Document Title: Child Protection Policy			
	Document Num: MAFC003	Version: 05	Date Issued: July 2019 Review Date: June 2020	

The role of the adult in the Club

If you suspect abuse or if a child tells you he/she has been abused, take it seriously:

1. Allow the child to speak freely without interruption, accepting what is said, but do not ask leading questions or investigate, the child needs to be able to respond on their own.
2. Let them know you are glad they have shared this information with you.
3. Advise the child that you must pass on the information to another person.
4. Do not criticise the perpetrator, the child may love the abuser.
5. Reassure them that they can speak to you again about the abuse if they want to talk about it.
6. Information regarding the concerns must be recorded in writing on the same day. The recording must be a clear, precise, factual account of the observations, using the child's words (if any). The record will include, in addition to the name, address, and age of the child: timed and dated observations and the adult in the Clubs' signature. A rough drawing of any marks on the body may also be required. If a parent has given an explanation relating to the subject this must also be noted. These reports are to be marked strictly confidential and be given to a designated child protection officer as soon as possible. If a report on a child is to be made to the authorities, the child's parents will normally be informed at the same time as the report is made. However, if the Club has reasonable grounds to suppose the child's safety may be compromised the parents may not be informed immediately.
7. Adults must also positively encourage attitudes and behaviour in children to counter prejudice and discrimination, stereotyping and bullying. Adults shall recognise that their behaviour and speech have a powerful influence on the development of the children's behaviour.
8. All adults working within the Club are required to join the Protecting of Vulnerable Groups Scheme, attend first aid training and update any relevant qualifications as required. Any registered official will be asked to complete the SFA online Child Wellbeing and Protection Course.

We aim to build up trusting and supportive relationships between families and the Club. Where abuse at home is suspected, the Club will continue to welcome the child and family while investigations proceed, with the provision that the care and safety of the child must always be paramount. Where abuse within the Club is suspected, the Child Protection Officer and Committee will act in accordance with the wishes of police and social services investigators. This may mean suspending staff / coaches and other officials from duty.

	MONIFIETH ATHLETIC FOOTBALL CLUB			
	Document Title: Child Protection Policy			
Document Num: MAFC003	Version: 05	Date Issued: July 2019 Review Date: June 2020	Page 3 of 3	

MONIFIETH ATHLETIC CHILD PROTECTION OFFICER

Club CPO	James Harle	31 Maule Street, Monifieth, DD5 4NQ	01382 530143	07895532909	james@harle.me.uk
-------------	----------------	---	-----------------	-------------	--

Other Useful Contacts

Fiona Stewart, SYFA National Protection Officer
 SYFA Limited Hampden Park, Glasgow, G42 9BF
 Tel: 0141 620 4590 Fax: 0141 620 4591
 e-mail: syfaprotection@scottish-football.com
 Playing it Safe: playingitsafe@scottish-football.com
 Website: www.scottishyouthfa.co.uk

Other Useful Contacts

NSPCC Child Protection in Sport Unit
www.thecpsu.org.uk
 Childline Scotland: 0800 1111 (free)
www.childlinescotland.org.uk

Dundee Child Protection Team: Seymour House, Kingscross, Dundee, DD3 8EA.

Tel No: 01382 307999

Angus Child Protection Team: Intake Team, 9 Castle Street, Forfar, DD8 3AE

Tel: 01307 473751

https://www.angus.gov.uk/social_care_and_health/protect_someone_from_harm/child_protection_in_angus/report_a_child?item_id=555