



CHILD PROTECTION POLICY STATEMENT

Annan Athletic operate as a Community Benefit Society and as a 'Fan Owned' Club our commitment to the community can not be better demonstrated than by our long standing and highly successful Community Football Programmes. We are committed ensuring that we imbed safeguarding and child protection into our everyday operations.

The policies, procedures and safeguards in place are in place to ensure that we do everything possible to provide a safe place for children and young people to enjoy their activities, this means promoting their rights, raising awareness of children's wellbeing and recognising what needs to be done and the requirement to act on this when a child needs help or support.

We have taken guidance from information provided by the experts, the CHILDREN 1ST Safeguarding in Sport Service, the Children's Parliament, Together: Scottish Alliance for Children's Rights, respectme Scotland's Anti-Bullying Service, and the NSPCC have all contributed to our work. Our policies, procedures and safeguards meet the standards of the International Safeguards for Children in Sport and also comply with sportscotland's Minimum Operating Requirements for Safeguarding Children in Scottish Sport.

Ultimately this will contribute to better experiences for children playing football. Regardless of age, gender, ability, ethnicity, location or their ambition to play, the goal is to ensure the consistency of a positive experience for every child.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'P. Jones'.

P. Jones

Chairman

Annan Athletic Football Club



Annan Athletic Football Club is fully committed to promoting, supporting and safeguarding the wellbeing of all children in its care. We recognise the child's rights to protection as provided in Article 19 of the UNCRC: all forms of physical or mental violence, injury and abuse, neglect or negligent treatment, maltreatment or exploitation, including sexual abuse. 'Child protection' means protecting a child from child abuse or neglect, as stated within the National Guidance for Child Protection in Scotland 2014.

For the purposes of this policy a child is recognised as someone under the age of 18 years. This policy applies to all children regardless of age, gender, sexual orientation, disability, race, religion, socio-economic status or family circumstance.

Annan Athletic FC will:

- Respect the rights of children as paramount.
- Promote the rights and wellbeing of children by providing opportunities for them to take part in football safely.
- Promote and implement appropriate procedures to safeguard the wellbeing of children and protect them from abuse, ensuring they know what to do and who they can speak to if they need help.
- Require members of staff and volunteers to adopt and abide by this policy and sign up to the Code of Conduct for Safeguarding Children's Wellbeing.
- Safely recruit and select individuals who will be working with children to ensure appropriate measures have been taken and risk assessed when needed.
- Train, support and supervise its members of staff and volunteers to adopt best practice to safeguard and protect children from abuse and to reduce risks.
- Respond to any allegations of poor practice, misconduct or abuse of children in line with procedures as well as implementing, where appropriate, the relevant disciplinary and appeals procedures.
- Observe guidelines issued by local Child Protection Committees for the protection of children.
- Regularly monitor and evaluate the implementation of this policy, these procedures and associated safeguards and include children's views in this process.

ANNAN ATHLETIC FOOTBALL CLUB



Review

This policy and associated procedures will be regularly reviewed and will include children's participation and feedback on the content and actual experience of implementation as part of the review:

- In accordance with changes in legislation and guidance on the protection and safeguarding of children or following any changes within Annan Athletic Football Club.
- Following any issue or concern raised about the protection and safeguarding of children within the Annan Athletic Football Club.
- In all other circumstances, at least every three years.