



Inspired Futsal Club

Safeguarding & Child Protection Policy

1. Policy Statement

Inspired Futsal Club is committed to creating a **safe, positive and inclusive environment** for all participants.

We recognise our responsibility to safeguard and promote the welfare of **all children and young people aged 5–16** who take part in our activities. We also ensure that adults participating in the club are protected from harm, discrimination and abuse.

Inspired Futsal Club believes that:

- The welfare of children is **paramount**.
- All children, regardless of age, disability, gender, race, religion or ability, have the **right to protection from abuse**.
- Safeguarding is the **responsibility of everyone** involved in the club.
- All concerns about a child's welfare will be **taken seriously and responded to appropriately**.

This policy applies to:

- Coaches
 - Volunteers
 - Club officials
 - Parents/guardians
 - Players
 - Adult team members
 - Visitors and spectators
-

2. Club Safeguarding Principles

Inspired Futsal Club will:

- Provide a **safe environment for training and matches**
 - Ensure **safe recruitment of staff and volunteers**
 - Ensure coaches and volunteers receive **safeguarding training**
 - Respond quickly and appropriately to **concerns or allegations**
 - Promote **respect, inclusion and fair play**
 - Follow safeguarding guidance from the The Football Association and UK child protection legislation.
-

3. Safeguarding Officer

Inspired Futsal Club has a **Club Welfare Officer (CWO)** responsible for safeguarding.

Responsibilities include:

- Being the **first point of contact** for safeguarding concerns
- Supporting coaches and volunteers with safeguarding matters
- Recording and reporting safeguarding concerns
- Liaising with the County FA and statutory agencies where required
- Ensuring safeguarding policies are implemented

Example:

Club Welfare Officer:

Name: Steven Jackson

Phone: 07398 147543

Email: stevenjackson71@yahoo.co.uk

4. Types of Abuse

Abuse can take several forms, including:

Physical Abuse

Deliberate physical harm or injury.

Emotional Abuse

Persistent emotional ill-treatment affecting a child's emotional development.

Sexual Abuse

Forcing or enticing a child to take part in sexual activities.

Neglect

Failure to meet a child's basic physical or emotional needs.

Bullying

Including:

- Verbal abuse
- Online/cyber bullying
- Exclusion
- Physical intimidation

Bullying is **not tolerated** at Inspired Futsal Club.

5. Codes of Conduct

All members of Inspired Futsal Club must follow behaviour standards.

Coaches & Volunteers

Coaches must:

- Place the **wellbeing of players first**
- Treat all players **equally and with respect**
- Ensure appropriate **supervision ratios**
- Avoid being **alone with a child where possible**
- Never engage in **inappropriate physical or verbal behaviour**
- Avoid private communication with players via social media

Coaches must **never**:

- Use abusive language
 - Engage in bullying behaviour
 - Develop inappropriate relationships with players
 - Transport players alone without parental consent
-

Players

Players are expected to:

- Show **respect for teammates, coaches and officials**
 - Play fairly and follow the rules
 - Avoid bullying or abusive behaviour
 - Report concerns to a coach or welfare officer
-

Parents/Guardians

Parents are expected to:

- Support the club's safeguarding policies
 - Encourage positive behaviour and respect
 - Ensure children are **collected safely after sessions**
 - Inform the club of **medical needs or concerns**
-

6. Recruitment of Coaches & Volunteers

Inspired Futsal Club will follow **safe recruitment procedures**.

This includes:

- Completing an application process
- References where appropriate
- Enhanced **DBS checks**
- Safeguarding training
- Agreement to follow club policies

No adult may work with children until these steps are completed.

7. Training and Education

The club will ensure that:

- Coaches complete **FA safeguarding training**
 - Welfare officers receive appropriate safeguarding qualifications
 - Volunteers understand safeguarding responsibilities
 - Safeguarding information is shared regularly with parents and players
-

8. Reporting Safeguarding Concerns

Any safeguarding concern must be taken seriously.

Concerns may include:

- A child disclosing abuse
- Unexplained injuries
- Concerning behaviour by adults or other players
- Bullying or online harassment

If a child is in immediate danger

Call **999**.

Reporting process

1. Report the concern to the **Club Welfare Officer**.
2. Record the details as accurately as possible.
3. The Welfare Officer will decide if it needs to be reported to:
 - The County FA
 - Social services
 - Police

All concerns will be treated **confidentially**.

9. Responding to a Disclosure

If a child tells you something concerning:

Do:

- Stay calm
- Listen carefully
- Reassure them they did the right thing
- Report it to the Welfare Officer

Do not:

- Promise confidentiality
 - Ask leading questions
 - Investigate yourself
-

10. Photography and Social Media

Inspired Futsal Club will ensure safe use of images.

- Parental consent will be obtained for photos/videos.
 - Images will not include personal details such as addresses or school names.
 - Club social media will be **managed by approved adults**.
 - Direct messaging between coaches and children is discouraged.
-

11. Changing Rooms and Facilities

To ensure safety:

- Adults must not change or shower with children.
 - Supervision should respect **privacy and dignity**.
 - Mixed-age changing must be managed appropriately.
-

12. Transport

Parents/guardians are responsible for transporting their children unless:

- Prior arrangements are agreed with the club
- Written consent is provided

Where possible, **two adults should be present** when transporting players.

13. Safeguarding Adults

The adult futsal team will also operate in a **safe and respectful environment**.

The club does not tolerate:

- Harassment
- Discrimination
- Abuse or violence

Concerns involving adult players should also be reported to the **Club Welfare Officer**.

14. Policy Review

This safeguarding policy will be:

- Reviewed **annually**
 - Updated in line with guidance from the The Football Association
 - Communicated to all club members
-

15. Policy Approval

Approved by:

Club Chair: Russell Fryer

Club Welfare Officer: Steven Jackson

Date: 01/03/2026

Review Date: 01/03/2027