A white sign with red text

Description automatically generated

Kingswinford Knights Football Club

Greenfields open space

Kingswinford community centre

Hight St

DY68AP

Reference: 20231219 – Safeguarding Policy

Date: 19 December 2023

**Kingswinford Knights Football Club and Development Team Health and safety policy.**

**1.    Introduction**

Kingswinford knights is committed to providing a safe and secure environment for all children and young people (aged 4-13) participating in our football activities. This safeguarding policy outlines our commitment to protecting the welfare of children and young people, ensuring their well-being, and promoting a positive and enjoyable football experience.

**2.    Policy Statement**

Kingswinford knights acknowledges its duty of care to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and young people and is committed to ensuring that safeguarding practices are embedded in all aspects of the club's activities. This policy applies to all club officials, coaches, volunteers, and anyone working on behalf of the club.

**3.    Key Principles.**

**Prioritising the Welfare of the Child:**

The welfare of the child is paramount. All children and young people, regardless of age, gender, ability, race, religion, or sexual orientation, have the right to enjoy football in a safe environment.

**•     Empowering and Involving Children:**

 Where appropriate, children and young people will be encouraged to take an active role in decisions that affect them, and their opinions will be taken into account.

**•     Prevention of Harm:**

All reasonable steps will be taken to prevent harm to children's well-being and ensure that their rights are respected.

**•     Proactive Approach:**

 The club will adopt a proactive approach to safeguarding, providing adequate training, supervision, and support for all staff and volunteers to promote awareness and understanding of safeguarding issues.

**4.    Roles and Responsibilities.**

Designated Safeguarding Officer (DSO):

**Nick Aston and Rhiannon Luckins** will act as the club's DSO and be the first point of contact for all safeguarding matters. They will be responsible for coordinating safeguarding training, maintaining records, and liaising with relevant authorities.

**•     Coaches and Volunteers:**

All coaches and volunteers working with children and young people will be required to undergo appropriate checks and training. They are responsible for promoting a safe and positive environment during all football activities.

**•     Parents and Carers:**

 Parents and carers are encouraged to actively support the club's safeguarding policies and report any concerns or incidents promptly.

**5.    Recruitment and Training**

All staff and volunteers working with children and young people will undergo a thorough recruitment process, including reference checks and DBS clearance. Regular training on safeguarding issues will be provided to ensure that all individuals are aware of their responsibilities.

**6.    Reporting Procedures**

Any concerns or allegations regarding the welfare of a child will be taken seriously and dealt with promptly and appropriately. The DSO should be informed immediately, and they will follow the club's reporting procedures in line with statutory guidelines.

**7.    Confidentiality**

All information concerning safeguarding matters will be treated confidentially and shared only on a need-to-know basis. The club will comply with data protection legislation when handling sensitive information.

**8.    Review and Monitoring**

This policy will be reviewed annually and updated as necessary. The effectiveness of safeguarding measures will be monitored regularly, and feedback from children, parents, and staff will be actively sought.

By adhering to this safeguarding policy, Kingswinford knights aims to create a safe and enjoyable football environment for all children and young people involved with the club.

**Date of Last Review: 01 / 2024**

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Nick Aston - Manager

Kingswinford Knights Football club and Development Team