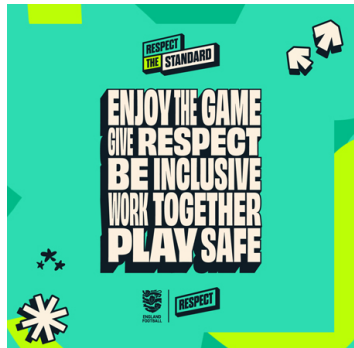




# Reporting Safeguarding Children Concerns

Beaconsfield Town Youth Football Club

*September 2024*



CHARTER STANDARD  
CLUB



## BEACONSFIELD TOWN YOUTH FOOTBALL CLUB REPORTING SAFEGUARDING CONCERNS

**If you're worried about a child, it is vital you report your concerns. Doing nothing is not an option.**

**It's also important you stay calm, and if any child is present, reassure them they are not to blame. But don't make promises of confidentiality or outcome.**

There are five ways to report a concern:

- You can contact Beaconsfield Town Youth Football Club's CWO (Sarah Richardson) anytime  
T: +44 7557 092261  
E: [childwelfare.beaconsfieldtown@gmail.com](mailto:childwelfare.beaconsfieldtown@gmail.com)
- Contact the Berks and Bucks Designated Safeguarding Officer directly  
T: 01235 544890  
E: [safeguarding@Berks-BucksFA.com](mailto:safeguarding@Berks-BucksFA.com)
- By emailing the FA Case Management Safeguarding Team at  
E: [Safeguarding@TheFA.com](mailto:Safeguarding@TheFA.com)
- If urgent and you cannot contact your club, or County FA Designated Safeguarding Officer, you should call the NSPCC 24 hour helpline on  
T: 0808 800 5000
- If it is an emergency because a child or children are at immediate risk, then call the Police or Children's Social Care in your area.





# BEACONSFIELD TOWN YOUTH FOOTBALL CLUB

## REPORTING SAFEGUARDING CONCERNS

### CASE HANDLING:

After I've reported a concern, then what happens?  
If reported to a club or County Designated Safeguarding Officer, they will make an assessment based on their training.

The assessment will classify the case as:

- High and immediate-risk;
- Medium-risk;
- Lower-risk or poor practice.

*If high and immediate-risk:* the statutory authorities will be informed and within 24 hours a standard referral for outlining the case will be sent to The FA Safeguarding Case Management Team.

*If medium-risk:* a referral form will be sent to The FA Safeguarding Case Management Team within 24 hours and handled on a case-by-case basis. This means it may be referred to the statutory authorities or handled by The FA and relevant County FA.

*If lower-risk or poor practice:* it will be handled by the County FA.

Thereafter, just as in a legal case, there are various risk management actions which can be taken by The FA to safeguard children. These include education, mentoring, supervision, and where appropriate, suspensions.

### WHAT IS ABUSE?

Concerns identified as child abuse will fall within the following five categories:

- **Physical Abuse:** A child is physically hurt or injured by an adult, or an adult gives alcohol or drugs to a child or young person;
- **Neglect:** A child's basic physical needs are consistently not met or they are regularly left alone or unsupervised;
- **Sexual Abuse:** An adult or peer uses a child or young person to meet their own sexual needs;
- **Emotional Abuse:** Persistent criticism, denigrating or putting unrealistic expectations on a child or young person;
- **Bullying:** Persistent or repeated hostile and intimidating behaviour towards a child or young person.

### WHAT IS HAZING?

Hazing is any action or situation, with or without the consent of the participants, which recklessly, intentionally, or unintentionally endangers the mental, physical, or emotional wellbeing of a child or young person. Hazing is not tolerated in affiliated football.

### WITHIN FOOTBALL, POOR PRACTICE IS DEFINED AS:

- When insufficient care is taken to avoid injuries (e.g. by excessive training or inappropriate training for the age, maturity, experience and ability of players);
- Allowing abusive or concerning practices to go unreported (e.g. a coach who ridicules and criticizes players who make a mistake during a match);
- Allowing hazing practices to go unreported;
- Placing children or young people in potentially compromising and uncomfortable situations with adults (e.g. inappropriate use by a coach of social media with a young player(s));
- Ignoring health and safety guidelines (e.g. allowing young players to set up goal posts unsupervised by adults);
- Failing to adhere to the club's codes of practice (e.g. openly verbally abusing the referee);
- Giving continued and unnecessary preferential treatment to individuals.

*Please note this list is not exhaustive. Incidents of poor practice occur when the needs of children and young people are not afforded the necessary priority, so their welfare is compromised.*



# BEACONSFIELD TOWN YOUTH FOOTBALL CLUB

## SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN POLICY

### WHISTLEBLOWING

Whistle-blowing in a safeguarding context means revealing and raising concerns over misconduct or malpractice within an organisation, or within an independent structure associated with it.

It can be used as an early-warning system or when it's recognised that appropriate actions have not been taken. This approach or policy is adopted in many different walks of life.

Any adult or young person with concerns about a colleague's conduct towards a child or young person can also use whistle-blowing by emailing:  
[Safeguarding@TheFA.com](mailto:Safeguarding@TheFA.com)

Alternatively, concerns can be reported:

- Direct to the local Police or Children's Social Care Services, or
- The Child Protection in Sport Unit at [cpsu@nspcc.org.uk](mailto:cpsu@nspcc.org.uk), or The NSPCC Helpline on 0808 800 5000 or email: [help@nspcc.org.uk](mailto:help@nspcc.org.uk)





## BEACONSFIELD TOWN YOUTH FOOTBALL CLUB REPORTING SAFEGUARDING CONCERNS

### **Child Welfare Contact:**

Child Welfare Officer | Sarah Richardson

E: [childwelfare.beaconsfieldtown@gmail.com](mailto:childwelfare.beaconsfieldtown@gmail.com)

M: +44 7557 092261

### ***Helpful Organisations:***

- NSPCC: [nspcc.org.uk/what-you-can-do/report-abuse](https://nspcc.org.uk/what-you-can-do/report-abuse)
- Childline: [childline.org.uk](https://childline.org.uk) | Helpline: 0800 1111
- CEOP: [ceop.police.uk/ceop-reporting](https://ceop.police.uk/ceop-reporting)
- ThinkUknow: [thinkuknow.co.uk/14\\_plus](https://thinkuknow.co.uk/14_plus)
- ChildNet: [childnet.com/young-people/secondary](https://childnet.com/young-people/secondary)
- Samaritans: [samaritans.org/how-we-can-help-you](https://samaritans.org/how-we-can-help-you) | Helpline 116 123
- Stonewall Youth: [youngstonewall.org.uk](https://youngstonewall.org.uk)
- YoungMinds: [youngminds.org.uk](https://youngminds.org.uk)
- DisrespectNoBody: [disrespectnobody.co.uk](https://disrespectnobody.co.uk)