



### **Child Protection Policy**

Every child and young person who plays sport shall be able to participate in an enjoyable and safe environment and be protected from abuse. We recognise, however, that child abuse is a very emotive and difficult subject. It is important to understand the feelings involved but not to allow them to interfere with our judgment about any action to take.

Skill 7 Limited recognises its responsibility to safeguard the welfare of all children and young people by protecting them from physical or emotional harm and from neglect and bullying. Skill 7 Limited is determined to meet our obligation to ensure that when providing sporting opportunities for children and young people, to do so to the highest possible standard of care.

Clear practices and procedures will ensure that everyone knows exactly what is expected of them in relation to the protection of children and young people within our sport. It is essential that those children and young people attracted to and participating in football are able to do so in a quality, safe and enjoyable environment.

To provide ongoing development and training opportunities to all coaches.

The aims of the Skill 7 Limited Child Protection Policy are:

To develop a positive and pro-active position in order to protect all children and young people who play sport enabling them to play in a safe environment.

To deliver quality assured child protection training.

To demonstrate best practice in the area of child protection.

To promote ethics and high standards throughout sport.

The key principles underpinning this policy are that: -

The child's welfare is, and always must be, the paramount consideration

All children and young people have a right to be protected from abuse, regardless of their age, gender, disability, culture, language, racial origin, religious beliefs or sexual identity

All suspicions of abuse will be taken seriously and responded to swiftly and appropriately working in partnership with children and young people and their parents/guardians is essential. Social Services Depts. have a statutory responsibility to ensure the welfare of children & young people

Skill 7 Limited is committed to working together with Ofsted, Social Services Departments and local Child Protection Committees in accordance with their procedures.

### **Skill 7 Limited's Regulations on Child Protection as defined in the FA Handbook**

1. Any act, statement, conduct or other matter that harms a child or children, or poses or may pose a risk of harm to a child or children, shall constitute behaviour which is improper and brings the game into disrepute.

2. In these regulations the expression "Offence shall mean one or more of the offences contained in Schedule 1 to the Children and Young Persons Act 1933 and any other criminal offence which reasonably causes Skill 7 Limited to believe that the person accused of the offence poses or may pose a risk of harm to a child or children.

3. Upon receipt, by Skill 7 Limited of:

3.1 notification that an individual has been charged with an offence: or,

3.2 notification that an individual is subject to an investigation by the police, Social Services or any other authority relating to an offence

3.3 any information that causes Skill 7 Limited to reasonably believe that a person poses or may pose a risk of harm to a child or children, then Skill 7 Limited shall have the power to order that individual to be suspended from all or specific sports activity for such period and on such terms and conditions that it thinks fit.

4 In reaching its determination as to whether an order under Regulation 2 should be made, Skill 7 Limited shall give consideration, to the following factors:-

4.1 whether a child is or children are or may be at risk of harm

4.2 whether the matters are of a serious nature

4.3 whether an order is necessary or desirable to allow the conduct of any investigation by Skill 7 Limited or any other authority or body to proceed unimpeded.

5 The period of an order referred to in 2 above shall not be capable of lasting beyond the date upon which any charge under the Rules of Skill 7 Limited or any offence is decided or brought to an end.

6. Where an order is imposed on an individual under regulation 2 above, Skill 7 Limited shall bring and conclude any proceedings under the Rules of Skill 7 Limited against the person relating to the matters as soon as reasonably practicable.

7. Where a person is convicted or is made the subject of a caution in respect of an Offence that shall constitute a breach of the Rules of Skill 7 Limited, it shall have the power to order the suspension of the person from all or specific sport for such periods (including indefinitely) and on such terms and conditions as it think fit.

8. For the purposes of these regulations, Skill 7 Limited shall act through its Company Director and founder.

9. Notification in writing of an order referred to above shall be given to the person concerned and/or any club with which he/she is associated, as soon as reasonably practicable

**CONCLUSION:**

Skill 7 Limited, confirming through this policy document, has indicated its determination to ensure that children and young people can participate in all sports activity with their safety being of paramount importance.

It is essential that this document is representative of a process of continual improvement in the area of child protection within sport. It is for all adults engaged in football activities to promote good practice and procedures whilst being ever vigilant and aware of their responsibilities towards the children and young people in their care.