



Code of Conduct for Children and Young People

Mistley RFC is fully committed to safeguarding and promoting the wellbeing of all its members. The club believes that it is important that members, coaches, volunteers and parents associated with the club should, at all times, show respect and understanding for the safety and welfare of others. Therefore, members are encouraged to be open at all times and to share any concerns or complaints that they may have about any aspect of the club with the elected club lead members and the committee.

Sports clubs should offer a positive experience for children and young people and where they can learn new things in a safe and positive environment.

As a member of Mistley RFC you are expected to abide by the following junior code of practice:

Children and young people are expected to:

- Be loyal and give friends a second chance
- Be friendly and particularly welcoming to new members
- Be supportive and committed to other team members, offer comfort when required
- Keep yourself safe
- Report inappropriate behaviour or risky situations for youth members
- Play fairly and trustworthy
- Respect officials and respect decisions
- Show appropriate loyalty and be gracious in defeat
- Respect opponents
- Not intentionally cheat or be violent and aggressive
- Make our club a fun place to be
- Keep within the defined boundary of the playing/coaching area
- Respect the coaches decisions, instructions and wishes
- Respect other team members and display team spirit
- Take care of club equipment
- Respect the rights, dignity and worth of all participants regardless of sex, age, gender, ability, race, cultural background or religious beliefs or sexual identity
- Refrain from all forms of bully including physical, verbal or online and social media in any form
- Do not get involved in inappropriate peer pressure
- Wear suitable kit for matches/training and look after it
- Not smoking on club premises or consuming alcohol or drugs of any kind whilst representing the club

Children and Young People have the right to:

- Be safe and happy in their chosen activity
- Be listened **to**
- Be respected and treated fairly
- Privacy
- Enjoy their sport in protective equipment
- Be referred to professional help if they need it
- Be protected from abuse
- Participate on an equal basis, appropriate to their ability
- Be believed
- Ask for help
- Have concerns taken seriously and acted on

Any minor misdemeanours and general misbehaviour will be addressed by the coach and reported verbally to the designated person. More serious or persistent misbehaviour may result in disciplinary action and potentially dismissal from Mistley RFC. Parents will be informed at all stages.

Disciplinary action can be appealed to the coach with final decisions taken by the club committee or referred to the governing body depending on the disciplinary procedures within the sport.

Neil Hildred
Club Safeguarding Officer