



# FORDINGBRIDGE RUGBY FOOTBALL CLUB

Recreation Ground, Fordingbridge, Hampshire, SP6 1AN

Tel: (01425) 652047 (Clubhouse)

[www.fordingbridgerfc.com](http://www.fordingbridgerfc.com)



## Fordingbridge Rugby Club Safeguarding Policy

- The Club recognises that the child's welfare is paramount to any other considerations. Under Child Protection laws and RFU policy, a "child" is anyone under the age of 18 engaged in any rugby union activity
- All children, regardless of age, gender, ability or disability, faith, size, language or sexual identity have the right to protection from abuse or harm and should be able to enjoy their rugby in a positive, safe and enjoyable environment
- Any suspicions or allegations of abuse will be taken seriously, and responded to swiftly & appropriately.
- There are four main types of abuse; Physical, sexual, emotional and neglect. We recognise that abuse, neglect and safeguarding issues are rarely standalone events that can be covered by one definition or label and in most cases, multiple issues will overlap with one another.
- All coaches, and other adults in the club having regular contact with children must adhere to the principles of both this policy, and also the Club Code of Conduct & Good Practice for Coaches & Referees.
- All coaches, and other adults in the club having regular contact with children will undertake a Criminal Records Bureau disclosure.
- The Club will keep written records of player attendance, parental contact details, parental consent, and accidents.
- A written procedure for dealing with suspicions or allegations of child abuse is available to coaches, officials, and parents.
- All coaches & referees will have attended an official training course. Parents and other "untrained" adults will only be allowed to help with the training & supervision of children, under the supervision of a trained coach.
- The club will ensure that any discrimination, whether by adults or other children, will be challenged and prohibited.
- The club will investigate and take appropriate action in any cases of bullying, whether by an adult or a child.
- We will have a named person in the Club, who is responsible for child protection within the Club, and to whom any issues of child protection should be raised in the first instance.

**The Club Safeguarding Officer at Fordingbridge is Chrissy Whittle 07545 229590**

**Email: [frfcsafeguarding@outlook.com](mailto:frfcsafeguarding@outlook.com)**





# FORDINGBRIDGE RUGBY FOOTBALL CLUB

Recreation Ground, Fordingbridge, Hampshire, SP6 1AN

Tel: (01425) 652047 (Clubhouse)

[www.fordingbridgerfc.com](http://www.fordingbridgerfc.com)



## Communication and Social Media

- It is essential parent's, supporters, players and coaches understand the boundaries and implications of not abiding by the RFU guidelines for Social Media.
- Failure to comply with the Code of Conduct may become a disciplinary matter
- Treat Social Media as a public forum
- Individuals and the Club are strictly responsible for any posting on his or her account.
- Do not use abusive, derogatory, vulgar or sexual language
- Do not criticise or imply bias
- At all times exercise discretion and respect for clubs, players, referee's coaches, supporters.
- Coaches are advised against direct personal communication with children unless in exceptional circumstances. Coaches and club officials should not communicate with children through social networking sites such as Facebook and Twitter, nor should they be 'friends' with children or comment on their status.
- Do not post inappropriate photographs
- Use Social Media positively to share achievements, encouragement and support engagement
- Any age group using Facebook must be a closed group, with an administrator governing the page and access. If the administrator is unsure of a person applying for access they should be refused.
- The home page must not have solo pictures of children. Team photos or the Fordingbridge RFC badge are acceptable.
- No personal information should be acceptable within the page. Never disclose addresses or phone numbers online.
- Pictures are to be of rugby related activities. Pictures are not to be used which may be left open to misinterpretation or misuse
- Any signs of bullying in any form will result in that person being removed from the group immediately
- Fordingbridge RFC, Safeguarding Officer is to be allowed access to each age groups page. The safeguarding officer will also have an up to date list of each administrator.



# FORDINGBRIDGE RUGBY FOOTBALL CLUB

Recreation Ground, Fordingbridge, Hampshire, SP6 1AN

Tel: (01425) 652047 (Clubhouse)

[www.fordingbridgerfc.com](http://www.fordingbridgerfc.com)



- No inappropriate materials to be displayed on the club website at any time (video, photos or text.) including adverts from third parties.
- Before creating a link the webmaster will carefully screen the content of the linked site to ensure there are no child protection issues and that the site poses no risk to the reputation of Fordingbridge RFC.
- People applying for Fordingbridge RFC website access are to be screened for proof of identification before being allowed access.
- Private emails/texts between coaches and children should be avoided unless totally necessary. It is always advisable if the need arises then the parent/guardian is copied in on the message at all times. Where possible use group messaging of email addresses provided by parents.

## Shower policy

- The Club must manage the changing facilities and arranges for them to be supervised by at least two DBS checked individuals, of appropriate gender for the players.
- Coaches, parents, volunteers, must not use the facilities at the same time as the children.
- No unauthorised Adults are allowed in the players corridor changing room or showers.

## First Aid

- The Club should ensure that there is appropriate first aid cover regardless of game, training or activity.
- In emergency situations the First Aid and Emergencies policy should be followed. Please refer to First Aid policy and links on the Fordingbridge RFC website.
- Coaches must follow the clear concussion guidance provided by the RFU.
- All injuries should be recorded by the age group first aider and serious injuries requiring medical attention/follow up must be reported to the Club Safeguarding Officer.

## Tours

- All Tours need to be planned well in advance and the first step is to contact your safeguarding officer.
- Appropriate permission will be required along with risk assessment forms and other reviews prior to travel.
- Tour checklists need to be completed and signed by the Safeguarding officer.



# FORDINGBRIDGE RUGBY FOOTBALL CLUB

Recreation Ground, Fordingbridge, Hampshire, SP6 1AN

Tel: (01425) 652047 (Clubhouse)

[www.fordingbridgerfc.com](http://www.fordingbridgerfc.com)



## Photography

- Fordingbridge RFC has a Photographic policy, which outlines the eight golden rules of best practice guidelines from the RFU.
- Ensure Parents/Guardian/Young persons have granted their consent for the taking and publication of photographic images, and have signed and returned the permission form.
- All young people must be appropriately dressed for the activity taking place
- Photography or recording should focus on the activity rather than a particular person or details that may make a young person more vulnerable, e.g personal data/admin must never be revealed.
- Where an individual has achieved success in the game, (e.g achieve triumph over adversity) permission must be granted from the parent/guardian and young person to use the photographs/recordings and give particular details.
- Where possible, to reflect the RFU/RFUW Equity policy, photographs/recordings should represent the diverse range of young people participating in rugby.
- Anyone taking photos at a rugby club event must have a reason to do so and must seek the organisers permission.
- Anyone taking photos or recording should make themselves known to the event organisers/persons in charge and identify themselves.
- All concerns regarding inappropriate or intrusive photography should be reported in confidence to the Club Safeguarding Officer.
- All parents are asked provide signed agreement and consent re the use of photographic and recorded images.

<b>Last review</b>	November 2020
<b>Next review</b>	November 2021
<b>Updated by</b>	Chrissy Whittle, Safeguarding Officer
<b>Approved by</b>	Tim Willcocks, Club Chairman