

CHILD PROTECTION POLICY

Mackie Academy Former Pupils Rugby Football Club is fully committed to safeguarding the welfare of all children in its care. It recognises the responsibility to promote safe practice and to protect children from harm, abuse and exploitation. For the purposes of this policy and associated procedures a child is someone under the age of 18 years.

Staff and volunteers will work together to embrace difference and diversity and respect the rights of children and young people.

The policy adopts the following principles:-

- The welfare of children is the primary concern
- All children, whatever their age, culture, disability, gender, language, racial origin, socio-economic status, religious belief and/or sexual identity have the right to protection from all forms of harm and abuse
- Child protection is everyone's responsibility
- Children have the right to express views on all matters which affect them, should they wish to do so
- Organisations shall work in partnership together with children and parents/carers to promote the welfare, health and development of children.

Mackie Academy Former Pupils Rugby Football Club will:-

- Promote the health and welfare of children by providing opportunities to take part in rugby safely
- Respect and promote the rights, wishes and feelings of children
- Promote and implement appropriate procedures to safeguard the well-being of children and protect them from abuse
- Recruit, train, support and supervise its staff, members and volunteers to adopt best practice to safeguard and protect children from abuse and to reduce risk to themselves
- Require staff, members and volunteers to adopt and abide by this Child Protection Policy and these procedures
- Respond to any allegations of misconduct or abuse of children in line with this Policy and these procedures as well as implementing, where appropriate, the relevant disciplinary and appeals procedures
- Observe guidelines issued by local Child Protection Committees for the protection of children
- Regularly monitor and evaluate the implementation of this Policy and these procedures.

This Policy and these procedures will be regularly reviewed

- In accordance with changes in legislation and guidance on the protection of children or following any changes within Scottish Rugby.
- Following any issues or concerns raised about the protection of children within Scottish Rugby
- In all other circumstances, at least every three years.

There are a number of associated policies and procedure documents to supplement this policy. Please see the attached list, which is by no means exhaustive.

ASSOCIATED POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

Available from Mackie Academy FPRFC –

- Child Protection Key Contacts
- MAFPRFC Code of Conduct
- Risk Assessment guidance
- Risk Assessment Form
- Recommended training and workshops – for those working with children in sport
- Club Recruitment and Selection Procedures
- Responding to Concerns – guidance
- Significant Incident Report Form (which forms part of the last above guidance)
- Club Disciplinary Procedures
- Reviewing the Management of Concerns
- Good Practice Guidelines (includes a range of guidance, including - first aid procedures, dealing with sexual activity, managing challenging behaviour, arrangements for transporting children, collection by parents/carers, trips away from home, information and communications technology/social media, procedure for use of photographs, film and video, changing facilities and dealing with bullying)
- Partnership with Parents/Carers Form
- Request for Permission to Use Camera and Video Equipment
- Welfare Plan for Overnight Trips Away
- Information Regarding Child Abuse (includes guidance on recognising neglect, emotional abuse, physical abuse, sexual abuse and abuse of children with learning or physical disabilities, as well as notes on relevant legislation and a list of useful contacts and websites)
- MAFPRFC Coaches Charter
- MAFPRFC Procedures for Coaches
- Registration Form for Mini, Midi and Youth Section Coaches

Available from Scottish Rugby –

- Safeguarding Children in Club Rugby - Child Protection Officer Handbook 2014
- Are You Ready To Play Rugby?
- Age-Grade Law variations and regulations
- Welfare and Child Protection Guidelines
- Responding to Concerns procedures