

# Cranbrook Rugby Football Club

## Safeguarding Children Policy

1. Cranbrook Rugby Football Club acknowledges its responsibility to safeguard the welfare of all children involved in Cranbrook from harm.
2. Cranbrook RFC confirms that it adheres to the Rugby Football Union's Safeguarding Policy and the procedures, practices and guidelines and endorses and adopts the Policy Statement contained in that document.
3. A child is anyone under the age of 18 engaged in any rugby union activity. However, where a 17 year old male player is playing in the adult game it is essential that every reasonable precaution is taken to ensure that his safety and wellbeing are protected.
4. The Key Principles of the RFU Safeguarding Children Policy are that:
  - The welfare of the child is paramount.
  - All participants regardless of age, gender, ability or disability, race, faith, size, language or sexual identity have the right to protection from abuse or harm.
  - All allegations or suspicions of abuse, neglect, harm and poor practice will be taken seriously and responded to swiftly, fairly and appropriately.
  - Working in partnership with other organisations, statutory agencies, parents, carers, children and young people is essential for the welfare, health and development of children and young people.
  - Children have the right to expect support and personal and social development delivered by an appropriately recruited, vetted and managed individual and that support and development should relate to their participation in rugby union whether as players, volunteers or officials in the community or professional areas of the sport.
5. Cranbrook RFC recognises that all children have the right to participate in sport in a safe, positive and enjoyable environment whilst at the same time being protected from abuse, neglect, harm and poor practice. Cranbrook RFC recognises that this is the responsibility of everyone involved, in whatever capacity, at the club.
6. Cranbrook RFC will implement and comply with the RFU Code of Conduct and the Codes of Conduct for Coaches, Spectators and Officials as appropriate. Cranbrook RFC will ensure its spectators, parents, members and officials are all aware of and have accepted the club Photographic Policy as set out in the club welcome pack and on the website.
7. Cranbrook RFC will endeavour to comply with the Guidance for Websites as set out on the RFU website and appended to this document.
8. The Club Safeguarding Officer is Toyin Coker

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If you witness or are aware of an incident where the welfare of a child has been put at risk you must in the first instance inform the Club Safeguarding Officer. They will then inform the CB Safeguarding Manager and the RFU National Safeguarding Team. If an incident involves the Club Safeguarding Officer you should inform the Club Secretary, Caroline Cannar email: [carolinecannar@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:carolinecannar@tiscali.co.uk) and either the CB Safeguarding Manager or the RFU National Safeguarding Team.

9. All members of Cranbrook RFC who have a regular supervisory contact with children or a management responsibility for those working with children must apply for a Disclosure and Barring Service Clearance.
10. Cranbrook RFC will ensure that all its members, whether they are coaches, parents, players or officials will comply with the Best Practice Guidance as issued by the RFU. In summary, the following are **NOT** acceptable and will be treated seriously by the club and may result in disciplinary action being taken by the club, the CB or the RFU:
  - Working alone with a child or children.
  - Consuming excessive alcohol whilst responsible for children.
  - Providing alcohol to children or allowing its supply.
  - Smoking in the presence of children.
  - Humiliating children.
  - Inappropriate or unnecessary physical contact with a child.
  - Participating in, or allowing, contact or physical games with children.
  - Having an intimate or sexual relationship with any child developed as a result of being in a 'position of trust.'
  - Making sexually explicit comments or sharing sexually explicit material.
11. Cranbrook RFC manages the changing facilities and arranges for them to be supervised by two adults (RFU DBS checked) of the appropriate gender for the players using the facilities. Cranbrook RFC ensures that all its coaches, parents, officials and spectators are aware that adults must not change at the same time, using the same facilities as children.
12. Cranbrook RFC will ensure that its coaches and team managers will receive the support and training considered appropriate to their position and role. The RFU "Managing Challenging Behaviour" Policy has been adopted and circulated amongst the club workforce both, voluntary and paid.
13. Any events held on Cranbrook RFC premises must comply with this Policy and if appropriate a Safeguarding Plan should be discussed and circulated to those affected. Any tours, overseas or domestic, undertaken by Cranbrook RFC must comply with the relevant RFU Regulations and Guidance relating to tours.

Signed



Club Safeguarding Officer

Date

5<sup>th</sup> January 2016

R.F.U.



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## **Safeguarding Children Policy**

Assistant Safeguarding Officers

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