



CHILD PROTECTION POLICY

Issue Date: January 2026

Malmesbury Youth F.C. will endeavour to safeguard the welfare of the children and young people who use its services by protecting them from neglect and physical, sexual and emotional harm. The welfare of children within the care of the club is paramount.

The club recognises its responsibilities under the terms of the Race Relations Act 1976, Sex Discrimination Act 1975 and the disability Act 1996. All children whatever their age, culture, disability, gender, language, racial origin, religious beliefs and/or sexual identity have the right to protection from abuse.

In addition to protecting children and young people using its services, the club will also seek to protect children it comes into contact with who may be subject to abuse elsewhere. The club will also work with partner agencies and hirers of their facilities, to raise the awareness of child protection issues and encourage others to adopt and implement child protection policies and procedures of their own.

The club will ensure that all its coaches have been provided with the relevant training to raise their awareness of child protection issues. All coaches will also be required to complete a police check for any relevant previous convictions.

It is not the responsibility of the club to decide whether or not child abuse is taking place, or has taken place. There is however a need to ensure that all coaches are aware of what they need to do in response to any concerns they may observe or that are brought to their attention. There is no question of coaches needing to be experts in recognising child abuse: they do however need to have an awareness of the signs and indicators. It is important that all coaches recognise their responsibility to act appropriately, swiftly and sensitively. Non action is not an option. All coaches must be aware of the support agencies available to advise and assist all parties concerned.