

Child protection

Child Welfare

CHILD PROTECTION & WELLBEING POLICY STATEMENT

Motherwell Football Club Community Trust is fully committed to safeguarding, promoting and supporting the protection and wellbeing of all children in our care. We recognise our responsibility to promote safe practice and to protect children from harm, abuse and exploitation. We embrace difference and diversity and respect the rights of all children and young people. Everyone at the club will be made aware of the policies and procedures in place to protect children in our care and to promote their wellbeing.

Underpinning principles:

1. A child is recognised as someone under the age of 18
2. A child has the right to relax, play and join in a wide range of sporting activities
3. The protection and wellbeing of all children in our care is everyone's responsibility
4. A child, 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
5. A child has the right to express views on all matters that affect them, should they wish to do so
6. A child's rights, wishes and feelings should be respected and promoted
7. The best way to promote the wellbeing, health and development of a child is to work in partnership with the child, parents/carers and other relevant organisations

To keep children safe in our club we will:

- Promote the wellbeing of children through opportunities to take part in sport safely
- Put in place policies and procedures to promote the wellbeing and protection of children
- Appoint a club Child Wellbeing and Protection Officer
- Recruit, train and support our sports volunteers/staff to prioritise the wellbeing of children who take part in our activities and protect them from harm
- Require the sports volunteers/staff to adopt and abide by the child protection policy and procedures including the Code of Conduct for working with children
- Respond to any child wellbeing or protection concerns in line with our policy and procedures.
- Monitor, review and evaluate the implementation of the child protection and wellbeing policy and procedures regularly

If you have any concerns about the wellbeing of a child at our club, please do not hesitate to contact the Club Child Wellbeing and Protection Officer.

If you have an immediate and serious concern about the safety of a child, contact the police and/or your local social work child protection team. Contact details of social work can be found [here](#).

Protection of Vulnerable Groups

In February 2011, the Scottish Government introduced a new membership scheme to replace and improve upon the current disclosure arrangements for people who work with vulnerable groups.

The Protecting Vulnerable Groups Scheme (PVG Scheme) will:

- help to ensure that those who have regular contact with children and protected adults through paid and unpaid work do not have a known history of harmful behaviour.
- be quicker and easier to use, reducing the need for PVG Scheme members to complete a detailed application form every time a disclosure check is required.
- strike a balance between proportionate protection and robust regulation and make it easier for employers to determine who they should check to protect their client group.

What do Protection Services do when I apply to be a PVG Scheme Member?

They will check:

- Are you barred from working with children and/or protected adults?

A check is carried out to confirm that you are not barred from working with children and/or protected adults. If you are barred you will be refused PVG Scheme Membership. This means that you cannot work with the workforce you are barred with (subject to certain exceptions)

- You are not barred from working with children and/or protected adults.

A search will be carried out to check for vetting information (e.g. convictions, cautions, children's hearing findings, other relevant information from the police).

- There is no vetting information or it does not have a bearing on your suitability to do regulated work.

Your PVG Scheme Membership certificate will be issued

- There is vetting information which has a bearing on your suitability to do regulated work.

If the vetting information identifies conduct which has a bearing on your suitability to do regulated work your application for PVG Scheme Membership will be considered by Protection Services.

What do Protection Services do once I am a PVG Scheme Member?

All PVG Scheme Members are subject to ongoing monitoring (continuous updating). This means that when you are a PVG Scheme Member your vetting information is kept up-to-date and if

there is new information about you this will be assessed to determine if you are unsuitable to do regulated work with children and/or protected adults.

Completing a PVG application form

Advice for individuals can be found here, including a video run-through of completing the form, can be found [here](#)

Key Child Welfare Contacts

Organisation	Contact Details	Website
ChildLine	0800 1111	www.childline.org.uk
North Lanarkshire Child Protection	01698 452859	www.northlanarkshire.gov.uk/childprotection
Safeguarding in Sport Service	0141 419 1156	www.safeguardingsport.org.uk
Children 1st	0131 446 2300	www.children1st.org.uk
Samaritans	08457 90 90 90	www.samaritans.org
Breathing Space	0800 83 85 87	www.breathingspace.scot
Respect Me (Anti-Bullying)	0800 441111	www.respectme.org.uk
ParentLine Scotland	0800 028 2233	www.parentlinescotland.org.uk
NSPCC 24-Hour Helpline	0808 800 5000	www.nspcc.org